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# Aruba **TODAY**

On Top Of The News Email:[news@arubatoday.com](mailto:news@arubatoday.com) website: [www.arubatoday.com](http://www.arubatoday.com) Tel:+297 582-7800 Tuesday, October 28, 2014

## SCORCHED



This photo shows the lava flow from an eruption that began the June 27, as the front remains active and continues to advance towards the northeast threatening the town of Pahoa on the Big Island of Hawaii. Dozens of residents in this rural area of Hawaii were placed on alert as flowing lava continued to advance.

(AP Photo/U.S. Geological Survey)

## Hawaii Lava Forces Evacuation Plans

JENNIFER KELLEHER  
**Associated Press**

Hawaii officials will make arrangements for those living in the path of a lava

flow to watch the destruction of their homes. That accommodation is being made to "provide for a means of closure," Ha-

waii County's Darryl Oliveira said Monday. "You can only imagine the frustration as well as ... despair they're going through."

Dozens of residents have been told they might have to evacuate as lava from Kilauea heads toward their homes. The lava was about

100 yards (91 meters) from a home Monday morning, officials said.

**Continued on page 3**

## Brazil: Re-elected Rousseff faces house divided

BRAD BROOKS

Associated Press

**RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)** — Brazil's re-elected leader Dilma Rousseff on Monday faced a house divided after a bitterly fought election that culminated in the narrowest presidential win since the nation's return to democracy three decades ago.

In a victory speech, Rousseff said her first task will be to seek reconciliation and to build bridges to those

stifle efforts at the political reforms millions of Brazilians demanded during street protests last year seeking increased government efficiency and less corruption.

Rousseff has urged Congress to call a national referendum on such reforms, but lawmakers balked at that last year when the president had more legislative support, and there is little reason to believe they'll agree to it now.

Brazil's economy fell into technical recession in August. It faces the internal pressure of lessening consumer demand and rising inflation, as well as the external dilemma of China's growth slowing faster than expected. Brazil's economic expansion in the past decade was built on the spending power of a newly minted middle class and the voracious Chinese appetite for commodities like iron ore and soy.

better public services," Sotero said. "The political fighting and fiscal problems paint the picture of a government that will have less to spend."

Now, Petrobras is at the center of a kickback scandal, and an emboldened opposition is likely to push even more aggressively for investigations that could be politically damaging to Rousseff's government. A convicted money launderer who is cooperating



Brazil's President Dilma Rousseff gives her acceptance speech while surrounded by her staff and supporters, during a press conference in a hotel in Brasilia, Brazil. Official results showed that President Rousseff defeated opposition candidate Aecio Neves of the Brazilian Social Democracy Party, and was re-elected Brazil's president. (AP Photo/Felipe Dana)

who didn't vote for her. "This president is willing to dialogue and that's the first promise of my second term, to have a dialogue," she said before cheering supporters in Brasilia.

But it's not clear how far Rousseff is willing to reach out to rivals, nor how receptive a highly fragmented Congress, which after this month's general election is split between 28 parties, will be to her overtures. Brazil's most rancorous presidential campaign in decades ended Sunday with the main opposition party's candidate Aecio Neves faring far better than anyone forecast less than a month ago.

The division could further

hamper delayed economic reforms that many believe are necessary for longer-term growth, and even frustrate agreement on shorter-term measures required to jumpstart a stalled economy.

"We've never seen an election that's been this divisive," said Paulo Sotero, director of the Brazil Institute at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington. "The things said during the campaign, by both sides, will make it very difficult for the nation to come together quickly."

Rousseff has steep challenges on both the economic and political fronts.

Then there is the matter of Brazil's "lottery ticket" and "passport" to the future, as former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva labeled massive offshore oil fields discovered in recent years. State-run oil company Petrobras so far hasn't made good on its potential to tap the deep-water riches and create substantial new revenue for the government. Many blame Rousseff's interventions in the oil company, such as forcing it to keep gasoline cheap to battle inflation, as hamstringing its ability to invest and grow.

"The government is going to have less capacity to deliver what the people are asking for in terms of

with federal investigators in exchange for a lighter sentence said that the ruling party benefited from the scheme and that Rousseff had direct knowledge of it, though he's so far offered no proof. The president strongly denied the accusations.

The Eurasia Group political risk firm said in a Monday research note that it expects Rousseff will see a short postelection honeymoon period.

"The middle class—a majority of which voted for Rousseff with the expectation she would improve public services—will rapidly realize that their priorities do not align with the president's," Eurasia wrote. □

## Vazquez leading in Uruguay president vote; faces runoff

LEONARDO HABERKORN

Associated Press

**MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay (AP)** — Former president Tabare Vazquez led Uruguay's presidential election in results released Monday, but fell a few percentage points short of the outright majority needed to avoid a Nov. 30 runoff. Vazquez, the candidate of the ruling Broad Front leftist coalition, had nearly 48 percent after nearly all votes were officially counted. His center-right challenger Luis Alberto Lacalle Pou of the National Party got about 30 percent. Pedro Bordaberry of the Colorado Party took about 13 percent in Sunday's vote and announced that he would support Lacalle Pou in the second round.

Whoever wins the presidency will likely face a Congress closely divided between the Broad Front and its opponents.

Now 74, Vazquez took office in 2005 as Uruguay's first socialist president, and the first of any kind in 170 years to break the control of the dominant Colorado and National parties.

He pursued moderate economic policies that helped Uruguay outpace neighbors while improving life for the poor. He left office in 2010 with high popularity ratings that put his party's candidate, Jose Mujica, in the president's office.

A still-practicing oncologist, Vazquez expanded health care in his first term and campaigned against the use of tobacco. He also vetoed a law to liberalize restrictions on abortion — a measure that later passed under Mujica. Vazquez has vowed to continue with the Broad Front's mix of pro-market economic policies and social welfare plans and said the vote on Sunday was "a huge recognition to the nine years of the Broad Front's government. ... Uruguay will now have to decide between five more years of progressivism, or another type of government." □



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# Hawaii lava forcing evacuation plans

**Continued from Front**

After weeks of fitful advancement, the lava crossed Apaa Street on Sunday in Pahoa Village, considered a main town of the Big Island's isolated and rural Puna district. It was getting dangerously close to Pahoa Village Road, which goes straight through downtown. Here's a look at the volcano, which has been continuously erupting since 1983.

The flow advanced about 275 yards (251 meters) since Sunday morning, moving northeast at up to 15 yards (14 meters) per hour.

The lava's advancement slowed early Monday, while the flow continued to spread out, according to the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory. The fastest advancing lobe was about 110 yards (100 meters) wide and about 620 yards (567 meters) from Pahoa Village Road at about 7:30 a.m.

Those living downslope of the flow are under an evacuation advisory. Most residents have found places to go or have already left on their own.

Scientists began warning the public about the lava on Aug. 22. The warning came as residents were cleaning up from a tropical storm that made landfall over the Puna district, toppling trees and knocking out electricity.

The lava has advanced and slowed as residents waited, watched and worried.

Kilauea volcano has been erupting continuously since 1983. Most lava from this eruption has flowed south, while the lava has flowed to the northeast over the

past two years.

This is not an eruption at the caldera, the things that make for stunning pictures as red lava spews from the mountaintop.

Initially, the lava seemed

agricultural district is about a 30-minute drive from the coastal town of Hilo.

Why would someone live on an active volcano? Unlike Honolulu, the state's biggest city on the island of

Oahu, the Big Island's Puna region still has affordable land and can offer a more rural way of life.

Located on the island's southeast side, the area is made up of subdivisions

that have unpaved roads of volcanic rock that are not maintained by the county.

People live off the grid on solar power and catchment water systems.

Residents know the risks, as there are special insurance requirements to buy land in certain lava zones.

Sporadic suspensions in the lava's movement gave emergency crews time to work on building alternate routes to town in the event the flow covers the main road and highway.

Crews near the leading edge have been wrapping power poles with concrete rings as a layer of protection from lava heat.

Officials are worried that if lava crosses Highway 130, it will isolate Puna from the rest of the island.

No one knows for sure if the lava flow will stop, change direction or hit homes. It is difficult to predict when the flow will stop or if it will start again from another vent.

In the 1990s, about 200 homes were destroyed by lava flows from Kilauea. □



A Hawaii Volcano Observatory geologist stands on a partly cooled section of lava flow near the town of Pahoa on the Big Island of Hawaii. Note the thin red horizontal line of molten lava visible along the bottom third of the photo. The flow here is about one meter (three feet) thick, but slightly farther upslope where the lava has had more time to inflate the thickness was closer to two meters.

(AP Photo/U.S. Geological Survey)

headed for the Kaohe Homesteads, a widespread, sparsely populated subdivision in the Puna district.

It reached vacant lots in the subdivision before it stalled and then headed toward Pahoa.

Pahoa has small-town, quaint and historic charm, but it's "the only town in a commercial sense in lower Puna," said state Sen.

Russell Ruderman, who represents Puna and runs a natural food store in Pahoa.

Because the lava could change direction, any community in Puna is at risk. Everyone in the district lives on the volcano. The lush,

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## Washington school shooting claims another victim

KIRK JOHNSON

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**MARYSVILLE, Wash.** - The Snohomish County medical examiner released on Monday the name of the girl killed in her high school cafeteria here Friday. Zoe R. Galasso, 14, of Marysville died of a handgun wound to the head, the medical examiner said.

Zoe's death was known and mourned at Marysville-Pilchuck High School, half an hour north of Seattle, with tributes and flowers posted in her name on the chain-link fence memorial that has arisen in recent days on the edge of the school grounds. But with official confirmation, her death became part of a wider public grieving that has gripped this community.

Less than 12 hours earlier, on Sunday night, hospital officials said another 14-year-old girl shot in the attack, Gia Soriano, had died of her wounds.

Both girls were sitting with friends when Jaylen Ray Fryberg, also 14 and a freshman, opened fire with a .40-caliber handgun during a lunch period, witnesses said. In a span of minutes, he killed another female classmate and seriously wounded four others, including Gia, each of them his childhood friends and two were his relatives. As the wounded have fought for their lives in hospitals, the attack has raised questions in this commu-

nity about why a popular 14-year-old boy would turn on classmates with lethal malice. Other details about the attack itself also began to emerge on Sunday, especially the role of a young teacher many students are calling a hero.

Many students interviewed Friday vividly remembered what happened after the initial shots were fired, as a woman grabbed Fryberg's arm - few knew the woman as Silberberger at the time, perhaps because she is still so new to the school. A few seconds later, they said,

Late Saturday, the president of the local teachers' union released a statement from Silberberger saying that she has asked for time to heal. Her statement was simple and direct.

"This teacher did everything possible to protect students," she said.

dents remain hospitalized. Shaylee Chuckulnaskit, 14, remained in critical condition Sunday at Providence Regional Medical Center; Nate Hatch, 14, who was transported to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, remained in serious condition in intensive care; and Andrew Fryberg, 15, also being treated at Harborview, remained in critical condition, hospital officials said Sunday. The boys were Jaylen Fryberg's cousins, family members said.

Fryberg came from a prominent family on the Tulalip Indian Reservation near Marysville, and the tribe's chairman, Herman Williams Sr., issued a joint statement Sunday with the city of Marysville, saying the two governments were collaborating fully in the investigation into the shooting, and the larger response in the community.

"The Tulalip Tribes and the city of Marysville stand together," Williams said in the statement. "Our priority is now on our children and young people."

Here in Marysville, on the suburban-rural fringe of the Seattle metro area, horses graze near the high school, but strip malls and housing tracts crowd in toward Interstate 5 a few miles away. On Sunday, a chain-link fence on the school grounds had become a destination for grieving and had grown thick with hundreds of flowers, messages and balloons.



Francesca Tuazon, 17, right, and Nicole Buell, 17, view a growing memorial on a fence around Marysville Pilchuck High School, Monday, Oct. 27, 2014, in Marysville, Wash. On Friday, Oct. 24, a student opened fire in the school cafeteria, killing two fellow students before taking his own life. The school will be closed all week. Both girls attend rival Marysville-Getchell High School.

(AP Photo/Ted S. Warren)

The teacher, Megan Silberberger, was only about six weeks into her first job out of college - as a social studies teacher at Marysville-Pilchuck High School - when she came into the cafeteria Friday morning and saw students on the floor and another student firing a gun.

they saw Fryberg fall to the ground. The county medical examiner said on Monday that the examination of Fryberg's body had been completed and that he committed suicide, confirming that a tussle over the gun with Silberberger did not cause his death.

The union president, Randy Davis, said in an interview on Sunday that Silberberger, who he said is in her 20s and did her student-teaching here at Marysville-Pilchuck last year, was "very traumatized" and was with her family, declining interviews.

After Gia's death, three stu-

# Man guilty of murder in attack on Chinese students

LINDA DEUTSCH

AP Special Correspondent  
LOS ANGELES (AP) — A man who was recorded confessing to the killings of two Chinese graduate students near the University of Southern California was convicted Monday of first-degree murder.

Javier Bolden, 22, was found guilty of shooting Ming Qu and Ying Wu as they sat in a double-parked car about a mile from campus on April 11, 2012. The killings drew international interest.

The murder charges carry special circumstances but prosecutors didn't seek the death penalty, so Bolden could face life in prison without the possibility of parole when he is sentenced on Nov. 17.

Bolden, who was in a white shirt, vest and glasses, showed no emotion.

He also was convicted of attempted murder and assault with a firearm in separate shootings that occurred months earlier that wounded two men and a woman.

Authorities said Bolden told

a cellmate that he shot the 23-year-old engineer-

secretly recorded Bolden discussing how he and a

Defense attorney Andrew Goldman said his client lied



**Javier Bolden reacts as he is convicted of first-degree murder at the Los Angeles Superior Court Monday, Oct. 27, 2014. Bolden was convicted today of two counts of first-degree murder for the killings of a pair of USC graduate students from China, during a robbery on April 11, 2012 in Los Angeles. Javier Bolden faces a sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole for the killings of Ying Wu and Ming Qu as they sat inside a car that was double-parked on a street near the USC campus in Los Angeles.**

(AP Photo/Nick Ut)

ing students. The cellmate was a police informant and

friend had planned to steal the couple's BMW.

to the informant to appear tough.

In February, Bolden's friend, Bryan Barnes, who also shot into the locked car, pleaded guilty to two counts of first-degree murder. He was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole in a plea deal to avoid the death penalty.

Fathers of the two victims came from China to speak at the Barnes sentencing, saying their son and daughter were in love and had planned to be married.

XiYong, father of Ying Wu, said her killing "shattered the dream and hope of our entire family into pieces and pushed us into the abyss of endless pain."

The deaths fueled concerns in China about the safety of students abroad and spurred USC to provide more protection around campus. Parents of the students have filed a lawsuit accusing USC of misrepresenting security at the campus, where nearly one-fifth of the 38,000 students are from overseas, including 2,500 from China. USC says it has more international students than any other U.S. university. □

## Judge sets new trial date for Holmes

CENTENNIAL, Colorado

(AP) — A Colorado judge has postponed the death penalty trial for movie theater shooter James Holmes so that Holmes' attorneys can have more time to evaluate a second report on their client's sanity.

Judge Carlos A. Samour wrote in a Monday ruling that jury selection will start Jan. 20. It had been set for Dec. 8.

The new schedule won't unnecessarily delay the case but gives Holmes' attorneys time to analyze the second sanity exam and prepare for trial, Samour wrote in the order. Jury selection could take months, with opening statements to begin in early June, as previously expected.

Holmes, 26, a former graduate student in neuroscience, pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity to charges of killing 12 people and injuring 70 in the July

20, 2012, attack.

More than 400 people were watching a midnight showing of "The Dark Knight Rises" in the theater in the Denver suburb of Aurora at the time. Holmes' lawyers acknowledge he was the shooter but argue he was in the grips of a psychotic episode.

Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty. They did not object to a short delay but did note that many victims opposed one.

This is Holmes' fifth trial date. The first date, in August 2013, was canceled after prosecutors said they would seek the death penalty, raising numerous issues that had to be resolved before trial. The second, in February, was scratched after prosecutors asked for the second sanity evaluation.

The third was Oct. 14, which the judge postponed to Dec. 8 after the doctor

conducting the second evaluation requested an extension.

Defense attorneys sought the latest delay so they could have more time to study the second sanity evaluation, which they said includes 22 hours of interviews with Holmes.

He underwent a mandatory sanity evaluation last year, but the key finding — whether he could tell right from wrong — was not released. Samour ordered the second sanity evaluation in January, after prosecutors said the doctor who conducted the first one was biased. Samour agreed it was flawed.

The evaluation is not the final word on whether Holmes was insane, but it is a key piece of evidence jurors will consider when making that determination.

Findings of Holmes' sanity evaluations have not been released. □

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## Milwaukee family seeks charges in police shooting

**M.L. JOHNSON**

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE (AP) — The family of a black man shot 14 times by a white police officer in a Milwaukee park marks the spot where he died with red spray paint before starting a rally and marching through city streets.

"Shame on you. People of color are people, too," protesters chant while carrying signs declaring, "Black Lives Matter."

The rallies are one way Dontre Hamilton's family has kept his name in the news in the six months since his death. The protests, smaller and more

orderly than those in Ferguson, Missouri, have not drawn national attention but have produced results. The man who shot Hamilton was fired, making him the first Milwaukee officer in decades to face such discipline in a fatal on-duty shooting. Now the family wants more: criminal charges for the officer, and improvements in the way mentally ill people — Hamilton had schizophrenia — are treated by police and social service programs.

"They messed with the wrong family. ... I'm not going to back down," said Nate Hamilton, Dontre Hamilton's brother.



**In this undated family photo provided by Dameion Perkins shows Dontre Hamilton. Milwaukee Police Chief Edward Flynn said Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2014, that he had fired Officer Christopher Manney who instigated a fight with a mentally ill man that eventually led the officer to shoot the man 14 times, killing him. Manney, 38, was dismissed nearly six months after Hamilton's death.**

**(AP Photo/Family photo courtesy of Dameion Perkins)**

Hamilton's family participated in a vigil days after his April 30 death but then said little publicly as they waited out an investigation into the shooting. They wanted details about what happened and the officer disciplined. They were frustrated months later, when protests erupted in Ferguson following the shooting of a black 18-year-old, Michael Brown, by a white officer.

"We tried to be accepting and respectful of the way the system works. ... Until it got to the point where the Mike Brown thing happened," Nate Hamilton said. "Now, you know who this police officer is, you're seeing them get informa-

tion, and in Milwaukee, we're not getting no information."

The family joined a Milwaukee demonstration organized to support those in Ferguson, and attention quickly focused on the similarities between the Brown and Hamilton cases. Nate Hamilton acknowledged some missteps, such as when protesters blocked a freeway exit ramp or became disruptive at a Police and Fire Commission meeting.

But overall, the protests have been peaceful, which Nate Hamilton said is crucial to building support for the family's goals. While the protests have highlighted that Manney is white and Hamilton was black, Hamilton's family is focusing on broader issues, including mental health.

Police Chief Edward Flynn promised more training for officers dealing with people with mental illness and, on Oct. 15, fired Officer Christopher Manney for instigating the fight that led to the shooting. Manney has appealed.

Hamilton's family wants to see Manney charged. The district attorney's office has delayed a decision until it gets a recommendation

from a national use-of-force expert.

The Hamiltons have been studying the law and police policy to better advocate for changes. They're also finding other ways to channel their grief.

Hamilton's mother is organizing a support group for women whose sons died in police shootings or custody and hopes to address shortcomings in mental health and social service programs. Maria Hamilton had struggled to get her 31-year-old son care after insurance problems caused him to miss his medication last winter. Until then, he had been doing well, living in group housing and working.

Without the drugs, he became paranoid and began moving from place to place, eventually ending up in the park, where he was sleeping when Manney responded to a call from a nearby business about him. Manney began a patdown that led to a fight in which Hamilton struck the officer in the neck with his own baton. Manney then shot Hamilton.

"Had he had that medication, he might still be sitting here with us," Maria Hamilton said. □

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## US Financial Front:

# American pending home sales rise modestly in September

JOSH BOAK

AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The number of Americans signing contracts to buy homes ticked up only slightly in September, as it remained difficult to qualify for mortgage financing.

The National Association of Realtors said Monday that its seasonally adjusted pending home sales index rose 0.3 percent over the past month to 105. The index remains half a percentage point below its 2013 average, although 1 percent higher than a year ago. Tight credit and price increases through the middle of 2013 have limited buying activity. About 15 percent of the real estate agents surveyed for the index said they couldn't close a deal because the buyer was unable to obtain a mortgage.

"We continue to see steady, albeit modest, improvement in this sector," said Jennifer Lee, senior economist at BMO Capital Markets.

Pending sales are a barometer of future purchases. A one- to two-month lag usually exists between a contract and a completed sale. The number of contract signings increased in the Northeast, South and West last month, while declining in the Midwest.

Federal regulators approved plans last week to expand the availability of credit. Five agencies — including the Federal Reserve and the Securities and Exchange Commission — backed changes to the rules on how much risk banks can accept when they package and sell mortgage securities in a multitrillion-dollar market. The modified rules should enable buyers to put less

money down on a home. Regulators ended the requirement that borrowers make a 20-percent down payment if the lending bank didn't hold at least 5 percent of the mortgage securities tied on its books. Additionally, average mortgage rates have fallen for the past five weeks. The average rate for a 30-year fixed mortgage tumbled last week to 3.92 percent, a 52-week low, according to the government-supported mortgage firm Freddie Mac.

Affordability remains a fundamental problem. Steady job gains this year have pushed the unemployment rate down to 5.9 percent, yet average hourly wages are barely rising faster than inflation. Without higher incomes, the share of Americans with the cash flow and savings to buy a home has fallen, pushing more of them into rental properties. Ahead of next week's congressional election, the affordability woes even have something of a political tinge, according to new analysis by the real estate data firm Trulia.

In heavily Democratic communities, the median price for a home costs \$227 per square foot. That's nearly double the price of \$119 per square foot in areas that vote Republican. This has encouraged Democrats to loosen lending standards, while Republicans have largely opposed such measures for encouraging consumers to become highly leveraged. When the Securities and Exchange Commission voted 3-2 last week to adopt new mortgages rules, the two Republican commissioners, Daniel Gallagher and Michael Piwowar, opposed adoption. □



A 'home for sale' sign sits in front of a house in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. The National Association of Realtors released pending home sales index for September 2014 on Monday, Oct. 27, 2014.

(AP Photo/Tony Dejak)

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## The SUV goes from All-American to global star

DEE-ANN DURBIN

AP Auto Writer

**DETROIT (AP)** — Once a hulking symbol of American excess, sport utility vehicles are quickly becoming the world's favorite way to get around.

It's a surprising rebirth for a vehicle that was the subject of obituaries when gas prices spiked in 2008. Automakers won back customers by making smaller, more fuel-efficient SUVs that also appealed to newly wealthy buyers in Asia and South America and former skeptics in Europe.

Indian drivers want SUVs to navigate rough roads. In China they're a status symbol. European and American Baby Boomers buy SUVs because they're easier to climb in and out

of. Upwardly mobile Brazilian families like their spaciousness. Cheaper sub-compacts like the Renault Duster are bringing in cus-

tomers who couldn't afford SUVs before.

Earlier this year, SUVs overtook four-door sedans for the first time as the most

Parisian Laurent Azoulai, 58, bought an all-electric sub-compact SUV — the BMW i3 — in July.

"I used to have Mercedes



In this Oct. 22, 2014 photo, workers perform final inspections on vehicles, as 2015 Ford Explorers, right, roll off the assembly line at the Chicago Ford Assembly Plant in Chicago. The seven-passenger Ford Explorer, introduced in the 1991 model year, was the first SUV that was equally at home navigating mountain trails or grocery store parking lots, says Karl Brauer, a senior analyst with the car buying site Kelley Blue Book.

(AP Photo/M. Spencer Green)

compact SUVs from Jeep, Honda, Fiat and others will arrive in showrooms soon and keep the growth going. Small SUVs now make up 58 percent of all SUV sales worldwide; the share of large SUVs has fallen to 12 percent.

The new crop of tiny SUVs is small enough to appeal to buyers in emerging markets but nice enough for down-sizing buyers in Europe and North America.

That's good for automakers, who save money by designing one vehicle that suits many different customers.

Owners who switch have a hard time going back to cars. Mo Mard, 56, a retired investment banker who lives in O'Fallon, Missouri, drove a 2003 Toyota RAV4 for 11 years. Six months ago, she traded it in for a Honda Accord sedan, thinking she'd like something a little sleeker.

She was immediately sorry. Mard missed sitting up high, and she wanted more room for her garage sale treasures.

"I'm back up higher, so I feel better," she says. With smaller size comes better fuel economy, another lure for buyers. The Trax is expected to get 34 mpg on the highway, which is better than many midsize cars. The diesel-powered version of the Ford Escape, called the Kuga, gets better fuel economy than a Toyota Prius hybrid.

China is seeing the fastest growth by far, with SUV sales up 480 percent since 2008 to 3.7 million last year, or around 20 percent of China's total vehicle sales. Chinese customers are increasingly using their vehicles for travel beyond their daily commutes, and they need vehicles that can handle rough roads.

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popular vehicle for individual buyers in the U.S. By 2018, analysts expect China to be the biggest market for SUVs in the world.

"The SUV genie is out of the bottle. They've been discovered by enough people that you'll never put them back," says Karl Brauer, a senior analyst with the car buying site Kelley Blue Book.

Global SUV sales rose 88.5 percent between 2008 and 2013, to 15.7 million, according to IHS Automotive. That was three times faster than auto sales as a whole. By 2016, IHS predicts annual SUV sales will total 20.1 million, or about one of every five vehicles sold.

Automakers are finding some surprising converts. France — where environmentalists used to roam the streets slashing SUV tires — is second only to China in the growth of SUVs, with sales up 220 percent since 2008, according to Ford. Turkey is third.

and Renaults but I liked this because I only need it for city driving," he said. "It's small, and it's electric, and I can't stand pollution."

Shrinking the SUV — and making it more fuel efficient — was the key to saving it. In 2008, less than half of SUVs sold worldwide were small, and customers had fewer choices. Twenty percent were large SUVs like the eight-passenger Cadillac Escalade, which defined the segment decades ago but had limited audiences outside North America.

Seeing the unmet demand, companies started making small SUVs that were even more nimble and efficient. Subcompact SUVs like the Chevrolet Trax — which is shorter than a Toyota Corolla — were born.

It worked. Sales of small and subcompact SUVs like the Toyota RAV4, Buick Encore and Ford EcoSport have more than doubled worldwide since 2008. New sub-

# US Gen. John Allen urges allies to combat IS ideology

HUSSAIN AL-QATARI

ADAM SCHRECK

Associated Press

**KUWAIT CITY (AP)** — The United States is pressing Arab nations and other allies to do more to counter the Islamic State group's slick propaganda campaign, with a top American envoy on Monday describing efforts to combat the extremist messages as a vital pillar in the fight to defeat the group.

The Islamic State group that has seized large parts of Iraq and Syria and declared a self-styled caliphate, or Islamic empire, in areas under its control embraces social media platforms such as Twitter and YouTube.

Hollywood-style film clips and other elements of its media campaign boost the group's credibility among disaffected but plugged-in young Muslims and helps it promote its conquests, inspire sympathizers and attract new recruits.

Speaking at a gathering of anti-IS coalition partners in the oil-rich Gulf nation of Kuwait, retired U.S. Gen. John Allen said it is up to all members of the alliance to "clearly, forcefully and consistently" reject the group's ideology and offer alternatives to it.

Allen, who is tasked with coordinating the U.S.-led coalition, characterized the fight in the communications sphere as a crucial element of an overall strategy that also includes confronting the group militarily and attempting to cut off its finances.

"It is only when we contest ISIL's presence online, deny the legitimacy of the message it sends to vulnerable young people and expose ISIL for the un-Islamic cult of violence it really is ... that ISIL will truly be defeated," he said, using an alternate acronym for the group.

The Islamic State group produces online magazines and polished propaganda videos that make use of multiple camera angles, computer graphics and sophisticated editing techniques.

One video released by its

Al-Furqan media arm earlier this year included aerial footage apparently shot from a drone over the Iraqi city of Fallujah, which it now holds. In another twist, the group cast a British journalist it holds, John Cantlie, as a sort of talk-show host speaking in a series of videos about the group.

Allen was joined in Kuwait by Undersecretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs Richard Stengel, who told reporters that an "information coalition" is needed to complement the military campaign.

"Whatever we do collectively on the battlefield needs to be amplified on the information battlefield," Stengel said.

The United States and its allies have carried out hundreds of airstrikes against the Islamic State group since August.

Washington is also trying to find ways to choke off the group's finances, which are estimated to include earnings of about \$1 million a day from black market oil sales alone. The group also makes money from extortion rackets and other criminal enterprises.

While the group is not believed to rely heavily on outside donations, American officials have urged Kuwait and Qatar in particular to do more to stop private fundraising for extremists.

"We need to work with all of our partners in the region to close down formal and informal sources of support," U.S. Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew said during a visit to Cairo on Monday.

"We in the United States are determined to work with all of our allies in the region, not just on a military basis but on a financial basis, to make sure that these sources do not continue to flow in and become a permanent source of funding," he added.

Sulaiman al-Jarallah, undersecretary at the Kuwaiti Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said Monday his country is fighting terrorist financing and has created a special task force to combat the problem.

U.S.-allied Gulf nations including Qatar and Saudi Arabia also took part in

dan, Egypt, France, and Britain.

So did the United Arab

states that have carried out airstrikes against Islamic State targets in Syria.



Kuwait's ruling emir, Sheik Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah, right, meets Gen. John Allen, left, a retired U.S. general in charge of coordinating the U.S.-led coalition's fight against Islamic State militants, in Kuwait city, Kuwait, Monday, Oct. 27, 2014. Allen appealed for Western and Arab partners to do more to combat the group's extremist ideology during a meeting in Kuwait on Monday. He urged coalition members to lay out concrete plans to counter the militants' message online and in the press.

the Kuwait conference, as did representatives from Turkey, Iraq, Lebanon, Jor-

Emirates, which hosts air bases used by the coalition and is among the regional

One of its top diplomats echoed the American officials' message. □

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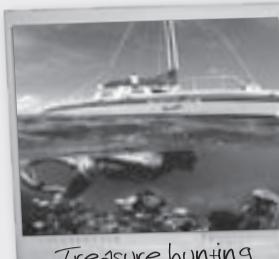
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Poland's Defense Minister Tomasz Siemoniak tells the Associated Press in an interview in his office in Warsaw, Poland, Monday, Oct. 27, 2014, that the country will move thousands of troops toward its eastern borders in a historic realignment of a military structure built in the Cold War.

(AP Photo/Czarek Sokolowski)

## Poland in defense shift over Russia

MONIKA SCISLOWSKA  
Associated Press

**WARSAW, Poland (AP)** — Poland is planning a major realignment of its military structure because of the conflict in neighboring Ukraine, the country's defense minister said Monday, a move that could shift thousands of troops to its eastern border.

"The geopolitical situation has changed. We have the biggest crisis of security since the Cold War and we must draw conclusions from that," Polish Defense Minister Tomasz Siemoniak told The Associated Press. Although Poland joined NATO in 1999, most of its 120,000-member army is based along the country's western border, as a relic of its former status as a Soviet Bloc member.

That is going to change, Siemoniak said, adding that at least three military bases in the east will increase from the current 30 percent of capacity to almost 90 percent by the end of 2017. That's a potential

increase of thousands of troops, although Siemoniak wouldn't specify a precise overall figure.

Up to 400 jobs would be filled in the air defense unit in Siedlce alone by 2017, he said.

"I believe that what happened to the east of Poland does not represent a threat to us for the next months, or two or three or five years. It is a need to draw conclusions for the decades to come," he added in explaining the large scope of the plans.

The announcement follows a visit by U.S. President Barack Obama to Estonia last month in which he urged NATO members to do more to assist Ukraine. There was no immediate reaction in Moscow to the planned Polish military moves. The Russian government may be reluctant to criticize Poland since Russia had insisted on the right to position its forces as it wishes within its own country when confronted by the West over the deployment

of Russian troops along the Ukrainian border.

Charles Heyman, editor of the Armed Forces of the United Kingdom publication, said Poland's eastward movement is "part and parcel" of a larger NATO re-deployment.

"We'll see other NATO nations probably stationing troops in Poland on a permanent basis as well," he said.

"Not large numbers, but maybe a small NATO brigade of 2,500 that would be rotated every six months."

He said this would make it clear to Russia that "there are red lines that cannot be crossed."

"It gives the other side a message: You've gone far enough," he said.

In a restructuring after Poland became a democracy in 1989, the number of troops was gradually cut down from some 400,000 and the draft was discontinued, basing the armed forces on career officers and enlisted troops.

## Italian banks hit hard by EU's 'stress test' results

DAVID McHUGH  
COLLEEN BARRY  
Associated Press

**FRANKFURT, Germany (AP)** — Europe's far-reaching review of banks set off sharp drops in the shares of Italian lenders on Monday after several of them failed the year-long exercise's test of financial strength. Investors and analysts sifted through the huge amounts of data released Sunday as part of the test results. Bank shares initially rose overall on apparent relief that the continent's largest banks were found to have adequate finances, but then fell, led by a plunge in Italy's bank Monte dei Paschi di Siena. It had the biggest capital gap to fill among the 13 banks that flunked and must strengthen their financial buffers.

The key banking index, the Stoxx Europe 600 Banks, fell 1.73 percent amid a decline in the broader market.

Though most of the banks that failed the review were in Europe's economically weaker countries, the results also raised questions about several banks in Germany. While they passed the main test, they fell short on a tougher measure of financial strength that will apply in coming years.

The review, conducted by the European Central Bank and the European Banking Authority, first checked the value of bank loans and holdings. Then their finances were subjected to a stress test to simulate how their finances would hold up in a downturn.

In all, 25 banks failed the test, nine of them from Italy. But many had raised capital in the months since the review began, at the end of 2013. As a result, 12 of the 25 had already covered their financial gaps found by the review, and several of the remaining 13 had only small amounts to raise. The test was aimed at restoring confidence in the eurozone banks as the ECB and governments try to get a stagnant economy moving again. It paves the way for the ECB to take over Nov. 4 as the main banking supervisor for the countries that use the euro. Shares in Italian bank Monte dei Paschi di Siena, which had the biggest capital shortfall at 2.11 billion euros (\$2.67 billion), plunged 21.5 percent on Monday. The bank's board met Sunday and said it had hired advisers to "explore all strategic alternatives." That could include a share issue, which tends to hurt the share price because it dilutes its value.

After racking up losses on Italian sovereign debt during the eurozone's financial crisis, Monet dei Paschi di Siena started a five-year recovery plan that included a 3.9 billion-euro bailout and 13 billion euros in state guarantees. It has been under added scrutiny after disclosures it hid losses.

Other banks were found to need smaller amounts of capital were Banca Carige, Banca Popolare di Milano, and Banca Popolare di Vicenza.

The result "puts a cloud above the Bank of Italy's reputation as a supervisor," analyst Nicolas Veron of the Bruegel think tank in Brussels wrote in an analysis, referring to the national central bank.



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## Car bombings in Iraq kill at least 38 people

**SINAN SALAHEDDIN**

Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — Two car bombings in Iraq, including one where a suicide attacker drove a Humvee into a checkpoint manned by Iraqi troops and pro-government Shiite militiamen, killed at least 38 people Monday, authorities said.

The deadliest attack struck the outskirts of the Sunni town of Jurf al-Sakhar, where the suicide bomber rammed his explosives-laden Humvee into the checkpoint, killing at least 24 people and wounding 25, a police officer said. Most of those killed were members of the Shiite militia, he added.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack. Jurf al-Sakhar is 50 kilometers (30 miles) south of Baghdad, but the bombing bore all the hallmarks of an attack by the Islamic State group.

Islamic State group militants lost control of the town Sunday, when Iraqi soldiers and the Shiite militia retook

it from the Sunni extremist group. The Islamic State group seized the town in July as part of its blitz that

captured large swaths of northern and western Iraq. In the wake of the group's advance, Shiite militias



Security forces and civilians inspect the site of a double car bomb attack that hit a restaurant in the Shiite-majority district of Talibiya in eastern Baghdad, Iraq. Two car bombings in Iraq, including one where a suicide attacker drove a Humvee into a checkpoint manned by Iraqi troops and pro-government Shiite militiamen, killed at least 38 people Monday, authorities said.

(AP Photo/Khalid Mohammed)

answered a call by Iraq's top Shiite cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, to join government forces in fighting the extremists.

Jurf al-Sakhar is part of a predominantly Sunni ribbon of territory that runs just south of Baghdad and lies on a road usually taken by Shiite pilgrims to the holy Shiite city of Karbala further south. Pilgrims will be taking the route next week to commemorate the death of the Prophet Muhammad's grandson, Imam Hussein — one of the most revered Shiite martyrs. Monday night, a car bomb blast near a line of shops and restaurants in downtown Baghdad killed 14 people and wounded 23, police said.

Medical officials confirmed the casualty figures for both attacks. All officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to journalists. □

## North Korea, UN investigator meet on possible visit

**CARA ANNA**

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — North Korean officials said Monday they met for the first time with a United Nations special investigator on human rights and "envise" him visiting their country. A U.N. official confirmed the meeting.

A visit by a U.N. human rights official would be a breakthrough in international efforts to have a firsthand look at the way the deeply impoverished but nuclear-armed country treats its citizens. But the North's offer likely is another attempt to stop a growing international call to refer its dismal human rights situation to the International

Criminal Court.

The U.N. special rapporteur is "very optimistic" about the possibility of a visit, "and very happy to hear from our side," Choe Myong Nam, a North Korean foreign ministry official in charge of human rights issues, told The Associated Press shortly after the meeting. Choe said no date had been fixed, but his country is looking for a "new and objective report" on North Korea's human rights situation. "Previous reports he has prepared have been based on rumors and fabrications, as well as distortions," he said.

The meeting comes a day before Marzuki Darusman presents his annual report

on North Korea to the U.N. General Assembly's human rights committee. An advance copy of his report, obtained by The Associated Press, "strongly urges" that the U.N. Security Council refer the country to the International Criminal Court over its human rights record.

Darusman could not immediately be reached Monday evening for more details. A U.N. official said the meeting lasted less than an hour.

The North has been on the defensive ever since a groundbreaking U.N. commission of inquiry report early this year laid out widespread abuses, including a harsh system of po-

litical prison camps holding up to 120,000 people.

Darusman, a former member of the commission, echoes the commission's call for an ICC referral by the Security Council. A resolution now with the General Assembly's human rights committee, drafted by the European Union and Japan, calls for the same. An ICC referral would be the global community's strongest effort so far to take action on the North's documented record of sprawling political prison camps, starvation and mass executions.

North Korea, long dismissive of conversation about its human rights record, has been feeling the pres-

sure. In recent weeks, it has made a series of unusual gestures including releasing a human rights report on itself and drafting its own General Assembly resolution on its rights record. The head of the commission, Michael Kirby, last week rejected the North's gestures as "a few honeyed words" and asked repeatedly in a rare face-to-face event with North Korean diplomats that both he and the commission's report be allowed into their country. Darusman's report recommends using targeted sanctions against people in North Korea "who appear to be most responsible for crimes against humanity." □

## Loyalists, uncertainty surround Haiti's ex-leader

DAVID MCFADDEN

Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)

— Former Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide returned home from exile in 2011 to a jubilant welcome, but lately he has seemed more like a prisoner. Police have been stationed outside the cement-block walls of his compound for several weeks, keeping watch and awaiting orders to carry out an arrest warrant issued by a judge investigating allegations of corruption, drug trafficking and money laundering

us, the Haitian people, so we must protect him from those who want to persecute him," said Juste Wilson Jean, one of a dozen men stationed outside the compound last week. Authorities say the stand-off may come to an end soon. The investigating magistrate, Lamarre Belizaire, recently summoned the police chief to court to explain why his order has not been carried out more than two months after it was issued. Police spokesman Frantz Lerebours said commanders are simply

the Institute for Justice and Democracy in Haiti. That outcome could lead to unrest for a country that has been enjoying a period of relative tranquility following years of tumult. Although out of power for a decade, Aristide remains divisive in Haiti. He is beloved by many as a champion of the poor who led opposition to the dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier and he is reviled by some elements of the Haitian elite. Aristide became the country's first democratically elected president in 1990,

tion, money laundering and drug trafficking dating from Aristide's second term. But the judge has not discussed details of his investigation publicly and declined interview requests. Maryse Narcisse, the leader of the Fanmi Lavalas party that Aristide founded, denied that the former president was flouting the law, and argued he was never properly served with the summons to come to court for questioning. One of Aristide's lawyers, Mario Joseph, asserts the allegations are meant to



A man dressed as independence hero Jean-Jacques Dessalines waves during a protest against the government of President Michel Martelly on Jean-Jacques Dessalines Day in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Supporters of Haiti's former President Jean-Bertrand Aristide are protesting Martelly as the nation marks the 208th anniversary of the assassination of Dessalines, Haiti's independence hero and founding father. (AP Photo/Dieu Nalio Chery)

that date back about a decade. The warrant was issued for failure to appear to testify in a closed evidence-gathering session in August.

As rumors have circulated that an arrest was imminent, supporters of the twice-elected, twice-deposed president have flocked to the compound along a busy stretch of road near downtown Port-au-Prince. A few weeks ago, they clashed with police, throwing rocks and setting up fiery barricades. Their numbers vary, with just a few at times, but some are there at all times in a tense vigil.

"President Aristide loves

waiting for the best time to move.

"It's up to us to judge when the opportunity is right," Lerebours told The Associated Press. "We'll take action when we can have the least problems possible." If Aristide is brought to court for questioning, Belizaire can drop the charges, allow him out on personal recognition while investigations continue, or lock him up in jail.

"Typically in Haiti, if the judge thinks there is reason to pursue the case, the accused is put in jail, usually for months, sometimes for years without trial," said attorney Brian Concannon, director and founder of

was ousted from power within a year and then returned to power with the backing of the U.S. government. He was ousted during his second term in 2004 in a violent rebellion amid accusations that he allowed corruption and orchestrated attacks on opponents.

The former priest is still popular enough that rumors of his impending arrest have prompted thousands of supporters to take to the streets of Port-au-Prince, burning tires and throwing stones or clapping their hands and singing, "Our blood is the blood of Aristide!" Belizaire is investigating allegations of corrup-

tion, money laundering and drug trafficking dating from Aristide's second term. But the judge has not discussed details of his investigation publicly and declined interview requests. Maryse Narcisse, the leader of the Fanmi Lavalas party that Aristide founded, denied that the former president was flouting the law, and argued he was never properly served with the summons to come to court for questioning. One of Aristide's lawyers, Mario Joseph, asserts the allegations are meant to discredit Aristide, and by extension the Fanmi Lavalas party, before legislative and municipal elections. Voting was supposed to be called by the government of President Michel Martelly in 2011, but remains unscheduled due to a stalemate with six opposition senators. Presidential elections are also due next year. But Prime Minister Laurent Lamothe dismissed those allegations as absurd, saying the judge is conducting an independent probe into a 2005 draft report from Haiti's financial intelligence unit that first made the corruption allegations against Aristide. □

## CUBA BRIEFS

### Ebola mission leader of Cuba dies of malaria

HAVANA (AP) — Cuba says a member of a medical team it sent to fight Ebola in West Africa has died of malaria. According to state newspaper Granma, Jorge Juan Guerra Rodriguez, 60, died in Guinea on Oct. 26 from cerebral malaria, a complication of the parasitic infection that severely and sometimes fatally damages the brain. The newspaper said two tests for Ebola turned up no sign of the disease. Cuba sent 165 medical workers to Sierra Leone this month, followed by a second group of 83 who went to Guinea and Liberia last week. Guerra, who the newspaper said was trained as an economist, was a member of the advance team sent to Africa before the doctors were dispatched.

### Cuba builds first church in 55 years

HAVANA (AP) — Cuba has allowed construction of the country's first new Catholic church in 55 years, the church said Monday. Experts said it's a sign of improving relations between the Vatican and Cuba's communist government. The church, funded by donations from Catholics in Tampa, Florida, will be built in Sandino, a citrus and coffee-growing town in the far-western province of Pinar del Rio. The church publication "Christian Life" said it will have space for 200 people. The Catholic Church had tense relations with what was long an officially atheist government for many years after the 1959 revolution, but they began to improve ahead of Pope John Paul II's visit in 1998. The government revived observance of a Christmas holiday and began allowing masses or homilies to be broadcast on official media. It also dropped a ban on church membership for Communist Party members that had been adopted in the years after the 1959 revolution. □

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## **ALHYDRAN, a highly recommended medical moisture-regulating gel cream in burn clinics worldwide now locally available.**

Tourists and locals love Aruba Aloes' skincare and sun care products, many of them become loyal customers once they have tried it, ordering their products online or visiting the shops once they are back on Aruba. But what most people don't know is that Aruba Aloe also produces a highly concentrated moisture regulating gel-cream called *Alhydran* which is used for the aftercare treatment of burn scars, surgical wounds, redness, itching, rashes after laser therapy or chemotherapy and other scar tissue. This very effective locally produced cream has become one of the new standards in scar treatment in university hospitals and burn clinics worldwide. Sold in over 22 countries, ranging from countries in Europe to even South Korea, this unique Aruban export product is locally available in all Aruba Aloe stores, [www.arubaaloe.com](http://www.arubaaloe.com) and since the month of June in *MEDIQ* pharmacies.

### **A success story**

Wim Arns, a middle-aged Dutch man, got severely burned on his hands and face when cigar ashes drifted down in the bucket of paraffin oil he was holding, causing a spontaneous explosion. Wim: "The explosion caused the burning paraffin oil to run all over my hands and a burst of flames burnt my whole face. It was such a painful and horrible experience I thought I would never recover and look normal again. After being treated in the Burn Centre clinic in Rotterdam, the doctors referred me to a skin therapist in my hometown where I should continue the sensitive after care of the burn scars. My skin felt really tight and itchy and I wanted a cream that would make my skin more flexible and stop the itching. That's when the therapist recommended *Alhydran*. Already within an hour of applying the cream, I felt my skin had more space to breathe, the itching stopped and it generally felt more comfortable. My face has healed completely, the skin has total flexibility again and the same counts for my hands. Therapy will also have contributed to this, but that the skin moves freely without tearing and that the itching is all gone, I attribute that to the use of *Alhydran*" said a very grateful Wim.



### **Alhydran; through the eyes of a professional**

Rina Rijkenberg is a certified skin therapist in Oosterbeek, the Netherlands. In her practice she comes into daily contact with people that have a broad range of skin problems and complaints. As a specialist, she has different treatments and products to opt from, but *Alhydran* is her nr 1 solution. Rina: "A lot of complaints are that the skin feels dry, itchy, red, sensitive and painful, which are symptoms frequently associated with burn victims, lymph edema patients, people that have undergone radiation therapy, have general scar tissue, acne or excessive hair. All this can be jointly caused by a deregulation in the moisture levels of the skin, causing the skin to feel dry, itchy and inflexible.



***Before***



***After***

In the case of lymph edema patients, we treat them with lymph drainage paired with creams such as *Alhydran* to regulate the moisture levels of the skin, because with these patients often this isn't functioning properly either. I think that the secret to *Alhydran* mainly is that it regulates the moisture levels of the skin continuously in an unprecedented way. Apply it onto your skin in the morning and it will remain active throughout the day, benefitting you with a less itchy and painful skin. The most important ingredient of the cream is very high dosage of pure Aloe Vera gel delivering the hydration, followed by pure Vitamin C, Vitamin E and Jojoba oil prolonging the activity. For us specialists the most important benefit of the cream is the patients' experience and that they can actually see and feel their skin healing" says Rina confidently.

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Since the month of June *Alhydran* is available in all Aruba Aloe stores, [www.arubaaloe.com](http://www.arubaaloe.com) and *MEDIQ* pharmacies located in Oranjestad, Bubali, Ponton, Santa Cruz and San Nicolaas.

For more information on *Alhydran*, please contact mrs. Melissa Acosta, Customer Service, at Aruba Aloe Balm N.V. T:+297 588 3222 or email: [customerservice@arubaaloe.com](mailto:customerservice@arubaaloe.com)

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## Les Voiles De St. Barth: Bound for the Sixth Edition!

**SAINT BARTH** - From April 13-18 2015, Saint Barthélemy will play host to the sixth edition of Les Voiles de St. Barth. No fewer than 80 boats and 1,000 sailors are expected to compete at the event, which has been a not-to-be-missed competitive gathering since its creation back in 2010, and for very good reason. The unique combination of sportsmanship and conviviality, which makes for excitement both on the

water and ashore, attracts a growing number of competitors each year. Among them are some of the leading names in the sailing world, and they make an exceptional line-up at an event firmly anchored as one of the Caribbean's major sailing meets. "In Saint Barth, we benefit from an extraordinary playing field, which is exposed to the tradewinds at varying degrees," continues François Tolède. "The nu-

merous surrounding islets serve as perfect course marks. In short, Saint Barth has all the ingredients that the most demanding racers dream of on the water. This sentiment is echoed on shore, as well, thanks to the event's 'French Touch,' which translates as marvelous gastronomy and a welcome beyond compare." Tolède added that while the port infrastructure in Saint Barth is fairly limited, it is why the organizers have always aimed for a line-up of high quality rather than quantity. "We are justifiably proud that the history of Les Voiles de St. Barth is one of controlled growth and constant evolution and that we do not forget to remain in touch with the racers. They are the ones who make the event what it is, and we are here to live up to their expecta-



tions as best we can." To date, some 24 teams have officially announced their participation in Les Voiles de St. Barth 2015. Among them are devotees like the 72-footer Bella Mente, the Ker 43 Otra Vez and the TP 52s Balearia and Sorcha, as well as newcomers such as the 72-foot Ran V, the Volvo 60 Cuba Libre, and the Swans Northern Child and Stark Raving Mad. "If we compare the number of entries on October 1 with those this time last year, it equates to double the competitors, and better still, the line-up is more technical," comments Luc Poupon, determined to put everything in place to ensure this sixth edition is a success. "As ever, the watchword is conviviality, so as to be a true reflection of the aspirations of modern yachtsmen and yachtswomen." □

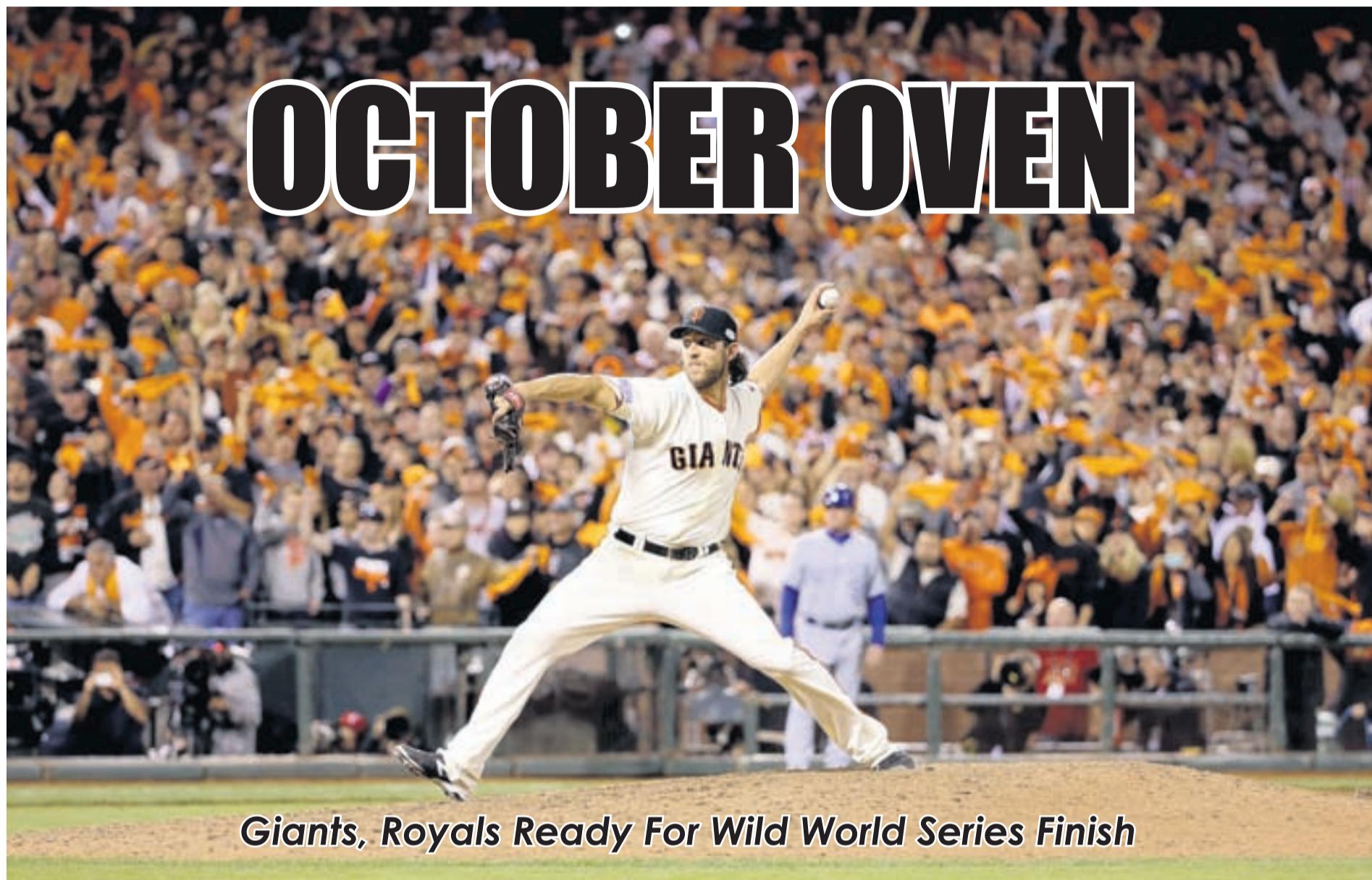


# SPORTS

## Aruba TODAY



# OCTOBER OVEN



## Giants, Royals Ready For Wild World Series Finish

San Francisco Giants pitcher Madison Bumgarner throws during the eighth inning of Game 5 of baseball's World Series against the Kansas City Royals Sunday, Oct. 26, 2014, in San Francisco.

(AP Photo/David J. Phillip)

### ANTONIO GONZALEZ

AP Sports Writer

### SAN FRANCISCO (AP)

Buster Posey was annoyed. Playfully so. The Giants catcher wanted Madison Bumgarner to do more than barely break a smile after a brilliant pitching performance put San Francisco one win from another World Series title.

No way, Buster.

Because in this postseason full of stars and surprises, who knows? Bumgarner may still have more work to do.

Baseball took its final break Monday before the Giants and Royals settle things.

Holding a 3-2 edge, San Francisco will try to claim its third championship in five years Tuesday night when the wild-card matchup resumes at Kansas City.

"We're trying to grind this thing out, the way we have for what feels like forever now," Jake Peavy, who starts Game 6 for the Giants, said before Monday night's workout at Kauffman Stadium. "Not even sure of the date, the day. Doesn't matter."

The day off gave fans a chance to savor what they'd already seen in the past month, and there was plenty — the success of

Bumgarner, Lorenzo Cain and Yusmeiro Petit, the struggles of Clayton Kershaw, Mike Trout and Detroit's aces, a rack of tight games and one that went 18 innings.

Could be a lot more cooking in this October oven, too. Maybe Ned Yost even had it right.

"Oh, man, somewhere inside of me, secretly I had hoped that it would go seven games for the excitement and the thrill of it," the Kansas City manager said after a loss in Game 4. "Sure looks that way."

Perhaps it's only fitting this Fall Classic ends at Kauff-

man Stadium, a place hosting playoff baseball for the first time in 29 years. The Royals started this pulsating postseason at home with a 9-8 comeback win in 12 innings over Oakland in the AL wild-card game, a thriller that began on the last day of September and nearly stretched into October.

That captivating night in Kansas City set the stage for a month to remember: dramatic finishes, favorites falling and underdogs overachieving, stars slipping and new ones shining.

What happens next is anybody's guess. After all, the

last time Game 6 of the World Series came to Kansas City, one of the most surreal scenes in baseball history unfolded: first base umpire Don Denkinger's botched call serving as the signature moment of the 1985 World Series won by the Royals over St. Louis.

"We know we can do it," Royals first baseman Eric Hosmer said. "We're a confident group. But we can't do anything without winning Game 6. We're excited to get back home where we feed off the fans and that energy."

Continued on Page 20

## LeBron Back Home, Spurs Back On Top as NBA Returns

Page 19

# Shared Belief is favorite for BC Classic

**BETH HARRIS**

**AP Racing Writer**

**ARCADIA, California (AP)**

— Shared Belief was made the early 9-5 favorite on Monday in a field of 14 for the \$5 million Breeders' Cup Classic, a race featuring a strong contingent of seven 3-year-olds taking on older foes. Shared Belief is 7-0 in his career, with all of his races coming in California.

Shared Belief's most recent win was in the Awesome Again at Santa Anita last month for co-owner and sportstalk host Jim Rome. The colt drew the No. 6 post for the 1 1/4-mile race on the same track.

"He's got speed all around him and we'll be able to follow them into the first turn," said Hall of Fame jockey Mike Smith, who will ride Shared Belief.

Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner California Chrome will break from the No. 13 post as a 4-1 second favorite in the early market. He has lost two straight races and one of his owners has said the colt will be retired if he runs poorly on

Saturday.

"He loves Santa Anita. The horse is training great and I look for a big performance out of him," trainer Art Sherman said. "I love the post position. I don't have to be down there (inside)."

Tonalist, who ended California Chrome's Triple Crown bid with a victory in the Belmont, drew the No. 11 post and is the 6-1 third choice.

Untapable, the nation's top 3-year-old filly, is the 5-2 fa-

vorite for the \$2 million Distaff, one of four Breeders' Cup races on Friday. She will break from the No. 10 post under Rosie Napravnik in the field of 11.

Close Hatches is the 3-1 second choice and drew

the No. 11 post.

Untapable won her first four starts this year, as did Close Hatches. Defending champion Beholder was sidelined by a fever.

American Pharoah drew post position five in a field of 13 for the \$2 million Juvenile, where the 2-year-old will try to position himself as the early favorite for next year's Kentucky Derby.

Trained by Hall of Famer Bob Baffert, American Pharoah is 2 for 3 in his young career. His sire, Pioneerofthe Nile, finished second to 50-1 shot Mine That Bird in the 2009 Kentucky Derby.

The Juvenile, to be run Saturday on the second of two days of racing during the 31st Breeders' Cup, includes two entries each from Baffert, Todd Pletcher and Irish trainer Aidan O'Brien.

Daredevil, who is 2 for 2 for Pletcher, landed in the tough outside post of No. 12. His other horse, Carpe Diem, also is 2 for 2.

"Sometimes horses pull bad trips from good posts and vice versa," Pletcher said.

"Both horses are going into the Juvenile in great shape and they have been very good horses at the gate."

The Juvenile features one of the deepest fields in Breeders' Cup history. Besides Daredevil and Carpe Diem, Blue Dancer and Souper Colossal also are undefeated.

Connections of California Chrome are hoping for a rebound in the Classic. After finishing fourth in the Belmont, California Chrome took an extended break and returned last month in the Pennsylvania Derby, where he ended up sixth.

"He keeps getting stronger and stronger," said Alan Sherman, assistant to his 77-year-old father, Art. "I think he's coming into the race just as good, if not better, than he was into the Derby and Preakness."

The Classic field also includes Bayern, who will try to end Baffert's 0-for-12 skid in North America's richest race, which caps Saturday's card of nine Breeders' Cup races.



Shared Belief and jockey Corey Nakatani winning the Grade II \$100,000 Hollywood Prevue Stakes at Hollywood Park in Inglewood, Calif. Undefeated Shared Belief is expected to be made the favorite after post positions are drawn for the \$5 million Breeders' Cup Classic.

(AP Photo/Benoit Photo.)

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## LeBron back home, Spurs back on top as NBA returns

**BRIAN MAHONEY**

AP Basketball Writer

LeBron James returned to Cleveland, Kevin Love joined him and suddenly the Cavaliers had the makings of the latest superteam.

The San Antonio Spurs are already one.

No big changes were necessary for the Spurs, who simply kept the gang together. They brought back nearly every piece from the team that annihilated James and the Miami Heat in the NBA Finals for their fifth championship.

James set off shortly after for a new start in his old home, where he will renew the quest for a championship that's eluded Cleveland's pro teams for half a century. The Spurs on Tuesday will begin chasing about the only thing that's escaped them in the Gregg Popovich-Tim Duncan era: back-to-back titles.

"We know that every team is going to come out and give us everything they've got," Spurs guard Danny Green said. "We've got a bigger target on our chest now and that's what we want. ... We've got to take on the challenge and be the ultimate competitors that we are."

Teams will be coming just as hard at the Cavaliers, who didn't win much more than draft lotteries after James bolted for Miami in 2010. But they were elevated to instant Eastern Conference favorites when James joined Kyrie Irving, the MVP of the All-Star game and the Basketball World Cup, and Love, the longtime Minnesota Timberwolves star.

Neither of those guys has even played in a postseason game, but inexperience — or anything else — won't work as an excuse now that James is back in his familiar No. 23.

spending new owner Steve Ballmer with a championship, could stand in the Spurs' way.

Kawhi Leonard's eye infection, but they still stand out even among the other top teams in the loaded West.

game to keep Oklahoma City among the West leaders.



Sacramento Kings guard Darren Collison, center, goes up for a shot against Los Angeles Lakers forward Wesley Johnson, left, and guard Jeremy Lin, right, during an NBA preseason basketball game in Las Vegas. The Kings won 93-92.

(AP Photo/John Locher)

"It's going to be a different challenge for them," James said. "They were so accustomed to being the prey sneaking up on the predator. Now it kind of changes."

James and the Spurs could meet for the third straight June, a familiar NBA Finals plot with a new stage and co-stars. But both face significant challenges just to get there.

Derrick Rose's return could lead a running of the Bulls right to the finals. Maybe Oklahoma City, once MVP Kevin Durant recovers from a broken foot, or the Los Angeles Clippers, looking to pay back record-

"I don't see it as a big question mark in the East. LeBron and Love and Irving will be in the Eastern Conference finals. I think Chicago will find their way there if their 2 and 3 hold up and if Rose is Rose again," ABC/ESPN analyst Jeff Van Gundy said. "But out West, to me there are like five teams you could say, 'I could see them advancing to the finals.'"

None has the continuity of the Spurs, who brought back 14 of the players who had confetti falling on their heads after Game 5. They won't be in top form for a while because of injuries, especially NBA Finals MVP

"I think we're all right next to each other — other than the Spurs," Clippers coach Doc Rivers said. "The Spurs are better than all of us. I don't think there's any question about that and so we have to catch the Spurs."

Here are other things to watch as the NBA season begins:

### WILL OKC BE OK?

Durant is likely out until December because of a broken bone in his right foot. He carried the Thunder through the absence of Russell Westbrook last season, and now Westbrook may need to raise his

### WELCOME BACK

Rose and Kobe Bryant are back after knee injuries kept both former MVPs sidelined most of last season. Only Rose has realistic title hopes, as Bryant's Lakers could be headed for another rough season after losing a franchise-record 55 games in 2013-14.

### KEEP PACE?

Eastern Conference finalists last season, the Indiana Pacers lost All-Star Paul George to a broken foot and Lance Stephenson to Charlotte in free agency, leaving a team that struggled to score without its two best offensive players. □

# Giants, Royals Ready For Wild World Series Finish

Continued from Page 18

Royals rookie Yordano Ventura starts against the veteran Peavy — not exactly the matchup many would've predicted in April.

But the majors' most notable names during the regular season — Dodgers ace Kershaw and Angels slugger Trout — flamed out fast in the Division Series. A trio of Cy Young winners didn't do enough for Detroit. Injuries slowed down former Triple Crown winner Miguel Cabrera of the Tigers and Cardinals ace Adam Wainwright.

Even playoff-proven starter Jon Lester looked lost under October's bright lights for the one-and-done Athletics. Plus up-and-coming starter Stephen Strasburg showed he still has to polish his postseason poise for the Nationals.

Instead, these playoffs bred a new batch of baseball darlings: Cain and the



running Royals, starter-turned-reliever Petit and a pair of blazing bullpens no longer overlooked in the World Series.

Of course, no star has burned brighter than a 25-year-old lefty from North Carolina, the one who peeved Posey with his tempered postgame reaction.

Bumgarner's dominant performances in Game 1 and Game 5 — not to mention in every previous round of the playoffs — has put San Francisco one win away from another parade down Market Street, something Willie Mays, Barry Bonds and generations of Giants fans had dreamed of for so long.

Now it's becoming an

every-other-year tradition. And if the Giants don't win Game 6, there's always a chance Bumgarner could emerge from the bullpen to help out in Game 7.

Royals rookie Brandon Finnegan might understand the topsy-turvy nature of these playoffs better than anyone.

Only four months after he pitched in the College World Series, the 21-year-old reliever got two key outs in the seventh inning as Kansas City won Game 3. A night later, Finnegan failed to bridge the gap to the back end of the bullpen, allowing five runs in an 11-4 loss to San Francisco.

"Baseball can pick you up quickly," Finnegan said, "and hit you in the gut quickly." □

**Kansas City Royals' Eric Hosmer hits a single during the seventh inning of Game 5 of baseball's World Series against the San Francisco Giants on Sunday, Oct. 26, 2014, in San Francisco.**

(AP Photo/Charlie Riedel)

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# Cardinals stunned by young Oscar Taveras' death

**R.B. FALLSTROM**  
**AP Sports Writer**

Mike Matheny needed some time to figure out what to say. Like the rest of the St. Louis Cardinals, the manager was leveled by the sudden death of Oscar Taveras.

The Cardinals are grieving the loss of an active player for the third time in 12 years after the 22-year-old Taveras died Sunday in a car crash in the Dominican Republic. Matheny, general manager John Mozeliak and pitcher Carlos Martinez were part of a group from the organization with plans to attend a private burial service Tuesday in Taveras' country.

"I was asked last night to give some words regarding the tragic death of Oscar Taveras, but I just simply couldn't," Matheny said Monday in a statement. "To say this is a horrible loss of a life ended too soon would be an understatement."

Taveras was a teenager when he signed with St. Louis as an international free agent in 2008. He was regarded as one of baseball's top prospects and homered in his major league debut May 31. He also had a big solo drive in the seventh inning of Game 2 in the NL Championship Series against San Francisco.

"He was someone that became an identity of our organization to some degree," Mozeliak said in a

conference call with St. Louis media before a visitation Monday night. "When you think about how much has been written about him and how much has been talked about him, he never truly got a chance to show

time of the accident on a highway between the beaches of Sosua and Cabarete in Puerto Plata, about 215 miles north of the capital of Santo Domingo. Edilia Arvelo, Taveras' 18-year-old girlfriend, also

tion. An autopsy was done Monday but results weren't available.

Moises Rodriguez, the international scouting director for the Cardinals, called Mozeliak with the news Sunday night.

Dominican Winter League. Taveras lost the regular right fielder job to fellow rookie Randal Grichuk, but that did not diminish the organization's long-term view that Taveras could be a star.

Taveras hit .239 with three homers and 22 RBIs in 80 games in his only season in the majors.

"In my opinion, the word 'love' is the most misused, and misunderstood word in the English language. It is not popular for men to use this word, and even less popular for athletes," Matheny said. "But, there is not a more accurate word for how a group of men share a deep and genuine concern for each other. We loved Oscar, and he loved us. Matheny was a catcher for the Cardinals when pitcher Darryl Kile died of a heart problem in June 2002. St. Louis also lost Josh Hancock in a fatal car crash in April 2007.

Each of those deaths occurred during the season, but the accident for Taveras happened with his teammates at home after losing to San Francisco in the NL Championship Series. Many of them took to Twitter to express their condolences.

"Last 30 minutes I've been sick to my stomach. Keep thinking about Oscar's big smile in the dugout whenever we made a big play/got a big hit," All-Star reliever Pat Neshek posted Sunday night.



This Oct. 12, 2014 photo shows St. Louis Cardinals' Oscar Taveras hitting a home run during the seventh inning of Game 2 of the National League baseball championship series against the San Francisco Giants in St. Louis. Taveras, the Cardinals' outfielder regarded as one of the majors' top prospects, died Sunday in a car accident in his native Dominican Republic. He was 22.

(AP Photo/David J. Phillip)

it at the major league level."

Mozeliak said he took a connecting flight from Miami with Taveras' father.

"Clearly, he was shaken by these events," the GM said. Taveras was driving a 2014 Chevrolet Camaro at the

died in the crash.

A funeral for Arvelo was held Monday in her hometown of Moca.

Highway police spokesman Col. Diego Pesqueira said the road was wet from a recent rain but the cause of the crash is under investiga-

"My very first thought was 'Is this true? Is this possible?'" Mozeliak said.

The Cardinals had just finalized plans for Taveras to spend most of November at the team's spring training facility in Jupiter, Florida, and then head to the

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# Ryan: Michael Vick to start for Jets against Chiefs

**DENNIS WASZAK Jr.**

AP Sports Writer

FLORHAM PARK, New Jersey (AP) — It's Michael Vick's turn. Even though it's probably too late to save the New York Jets' season. Rex Ryan announced Monday that Vick will start at

adding that it isn't "any long-term deal or whatever."

The Jets are mired in a seven-game skid that has them at 1-7 after a 43-23 loss in which both Smith and Vick turned the ball over three times against

professional sports, it's a great thing. You have to relish it, but also at the same time take it extremely serious and understand what's at stake and what needs to be done."

Smith, in his second season, was benched in the first

drive, but also committed three turnovers of his own. "My focus is just on Kansas City and trying to find a way to get a win," Ryan said. "That's why this decision was made."

Vick was 18 of 36 for 153 yards against the Bills, and

turned by video review — and lost two fumbles.

His first start with the Jets will come against Chiefs coach Andy Reid, who helped revive the quarterback's career in Philadelphia after he served nearly two years in prison for his role in a dogfighting ring. Vick called it "kind of ironic" and added that it isn't exactly what he wanted, but is happy to be starting — regardless of the opponent. "I love Andy Reid for the man that he is," Vick said. "As far as the football game, football is football. I just want to go out there and do what's best for the team and hopefully try to get a win."

Smith injured his right shoulder during the game when he made a touchdown-saving tackle on his final interception, but both he and Ryan said it isn't serious. Ryan did acknowledge Smith's shoulder isn't 100 percent, and Matt Simms could be activated from the practice squad if Smith isn't available.

"They said it was minor soreness," Smith said.

The Jets have been searching for a franchise-type quarterback since the days of Broadway Joe. Vick will become the 27th quarterback to start a game for New York since Joe Namath's last game with the team in 1976. A few have had some good moments — Vinny Testaverde, Chad Pennington, Brett Favre and even Mark Sanchez — but none was able to sustain any level of dominance or post-season success.

Smith was given every opportunity to prove he could be that type of player after being thrust into the job when Sanchez was lost for the year during the 2013 preseason. He finished his shaky rookie season with 12 touchdowns and 21 interceptions, but had a solid final month to give the Jets some hope.

New York signed Vick in the offseason to provide some competition for Smith, but it was clear early that it was the second-year quarterback's job all along. □



New York Jets quarterback Michael Vick is pressed by members of the Buffalo Bills defense in the second quarter of an NFL football game at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J., Oct. 26, 2014. The Bills won 43-23.

(Barton Silverman/The New York Times)

quarterback over Geno Smith in the Jets' road game against the Kansas City Chiefs on Sunday.

"I think this is the right decision at this time," Ryan said,

the Buffalo Bills on Sunday. "I think it's a great opportunity," the 34-year-old Vick said. "Any time you get named to be the starter, in any profession, in pro-

quarter Sunday after throwing interceptions on three consecutive possessions. Vick took over and provided a spark, leading the Jets to a touchdown on his first

also ran for a team-leading 69 yards on eight carries. But he threw one interception — and nearly had another that was ruled incomplete after being over-

## Paris Masters:

### Querrey beats 2012 runner-up Jerzy Janowicz

**TRUNG LATIEULE**

Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — American qualifier Sam Querrey reached the second round of the Paris Masters by beating 2012 runner-up Jerzy Janowicz 6-7 (5), 6-2, 6-4 Monday.

Querrey had 17 aces to 12 for Janowicz, a 2013 Wimbledon semifinalist from Poland, and 46 winners to 32. Richard Gasquet of France, Philipp Kohlschreiber of Germany and Dominic Thiem of Austria also ad-

vanced.

Gasquet, a semifinalist at the 2013 U.S. Open, was leading 6-7 (4), 6-2, 4-0 when Uzbek qualifier Denis Istomin retired because of a right leg injury.

Thiem, the youngest player in the top 50, beat Alexander Dolgopolov of Ukraine 6-2, 4-6, 6-0, while Kohlschreiber cruised past French wild card Edouard Roger-Vasselin 6-3, 6-1 to next play defending champion Novak Djokovic. Janowicz won four straight

points to lead 6-3 in the tie-breaker and capitalized on a double-fault from Querrey to take the first set.

But Querrey broke Janowicz twice in the second set and slammed an ace to even the match. The American broke for a 2-1 lead in the final set and converted his second match point with a forehand winner.

Fernando Verdasco of Spain and Santiago Giraldo of Colombia also won their first-round matches, along with American qualifier

Jack Sock, Austrian veteran Jurgen Melzer and Frenchmen Julien Benneteau and Adrian Mannarino.

Verdasco overcame American qualifier Donald Young 4-6, 6-1, 6-3. Giraldo defeated Mikhail Youzhny of Russia 6-2, 6-4. Sock routed Pablo Andujar of Spain 6-1, 6-1. Melzer dismissed Guillermo Garcia-Lopez of Spain 6-4, 6-1. Benneteau ousted Lu Yen-Hsun of Taiwan 6-3, 6-4, and Mannarino beat Pierre-Hugues Herbert of France 7-6 (3), 6-3. □

New York signed Vick in the offseason to provide some competition for Smith, but it was clear early that it was the second-year quarterback's job all along. □

## 2 drug chains cancel Apple Pay, as a rival makes plans

MIKE ISAAC

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Apple Pay, the Silicon Valley giant's highly anticipated mobile wallet, has been available for only one week but already may be inciting a battle within the payments industry.

Over the weekend, Rite Aid and CVS disabled Apple Pay from working in their stores nationwide. The reason was not immediately clear.

Ashley Flower, a spokeswoman for Rite Aid, said the company "does not currently accept Apple Pay." She added that Rite Aid was "still in the process of evaluating our mobile payment options."

Representatives from CVS did not respond to repeated telephone and email requests for comment on Sunday.

Analysts said disabling acceptance of Apple Pay was a way to favor a rival system that is not yet available but is being developed by a consortium of merchants known as Merchant Customer Exchange, or MCX. Rite Aid and CVS are part of that consortium, not part of the group of retailers that had teamed up with Apple on its payment system. Nonetheless, over the week, Apple Pay technology was working in Rite Aid and CVS stores.

"Clearly Rite Aid and CVS are making a business decision over a customer satisfaction decision," said Patrick Moorhead, president of Moor Insights & Strategy. He added that the move could upset consumers who believe Apple's new product is easier and safer than paying with a traditional credit card.

Apple declined to comment on the stores' action. An executive at MasterCard, which has teamed with Apple on its new system, said Rite Aid and CVS made the wrong decision.

"We think consumers should have the ability to pay any way they want," said Ed McLaughlin, chief emerging payments officer at MasterCard.

"Rite Aid and CVS have been accepting contactless payments for quite a long time," McLaughlin added. "We look forward to them turning the functionality back on in their stores."

Apple has not released data on how popular its new product is. But on Apple Pay's first day, at Chase banking services seven times more people added Chase credit cards to Apple Pay than signed up for new credit cards, Avin Arumugam, Chase's digital executive director, said in an interview with Bloomberg.

A great deal is at stake. MCX's payments system helps merchants keep track of customer shopping habits across the dozens of merchants who plan to accept the payment product. That is a potential treasure trove of data for retailers, who wish to better target consumers with deals and loyalty programs.

This also gives retailers the potential ability to cut credit card companies out of the payments process entirely. MCX's system, CurrentC, will be linked to a consumer's debit account, according to the company's description of the product. By bypassing credit card companies, MCX merchants could potentially save money on the fees they pay per transaction.

MCX retailers include large chains like Best Buy, Gap Inc. and Wal-Mart. Overall, they represent more than \$1 trillion in annual sales, 110,000 total stores and more than one-fifth of total U.S. retail sales volume, according to the coalition. Apple Pay, which works only with the new iPhone 6 and 6 Plus devices, essentially supplants traditional credit cards, allowing users to pay for items at a retailer's cash register with little more than a wave of their smartphone. □

## Using algorithms; Facebook changing news consumption

RAVI SOMAIYA

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**MENLO PARK, Calif.** - Many of the people who read this article will do so because Greg Marra, 26, a Facebook engineer, calculated that it was the kind of thing they might enjoy. Marra's team designs the code that drives Facebook's News Feed - the stream of updates, photographs, videos and stories that users see. He is also fast becoming one of the most influential people in the news business.

Facebook now has a fifth of the world - about 1.3 billion people - logging on at least monthly. It drives up to 20 percent of traffic to news sites, according to figures from the analytics company SimpleReach. On mobile devices, the fastest-growing source of readers, the percentage is even higher, SimpleReach says, and continues to increase.

The social media company is increasingly becoming to the news business what Amazon is to book publishing - a behemoth that provides access to hundreds of millions of consumers and wields enormous power. About 30 percent of adults in the United States get their news on Facebook, according to a study from the Pew Research Center. The fortunes of a news site, in short, can rise or fall depending on how it performs in Facebook's News Feed.

Though other services, like Twitter and Google News, can also exert a large influence, Facebook is at the forefront of a fundamental change in how people consume journalism. Most readers now come to it not through the print editions of newspapers and magazines or their home pages online, but through social media and search engines driven by an algorithm, a mathematical formula that predicts what users might want to read. It is a world of fragments, filtered by code and delivered on demand. For news organizations, said

Cory Haik, senior editor for digital news at The Washington Post, the shift represents "the great unbundling" of journalism. Just as the music industry has moved largely from selling albums to songs bought instantly online, publishers are increasingly reaching readers through individual pieces rather than com-



**Facebook is becoming to the news media what Amazon is to book publishing -- a behemoth which provides access to hundreds of millions of people, which means it wields enormous power over what stories are seen by the largest audience.**

**(Sam Manchester/The New York Times)**

plete editions of newspapers or magazines. A publication's home page, said Edward Kim, a co-founder of SimpleReach, will soon be important more as an advertisement of its brand than as a destination for readers.

"People won't type in WashingtonPost.com anymore," Haik said. "It's search and social."

The shift raises questions about the ability of computers to curate news, a role traditionally played by editors. It also has broader implications for the way people consume information, and thus how they see the world.

In an interview at Facebook's sprawling headquarters here, which has a giant, self-driving golf cart that takes workers between buildings, Marra said he does not think too much about his impact on journalism.

"We try to explicitly view

ourselves as not editors," he said. "We don't want to have editorial judgment over the content that's in your feed. You've made your friends, you've connected to the pages that you want to connect to and you're the best decider for the things that you care about."

In Facebook's work on its users' news feeds, Marra said, "we're saying 'We think that of all the stuff you've connected yourself to, this is the stuff you'd be most interested in reading.'"

Roughly once a week, he and his team of about 16 adjust the complex computer code that decides what to show a user when he or she first logs on to Facebook. The code is based on "thousands and thousands" of metrics, Marra said, including what device a user is on, how many comments or likes a story has received and how long readers spend on an article.

The goal is to identify what users most enjoy, and its results vary around the world. In India, he said, people tend to share what the company calls the ABCDs: astrology, Bollywood, cricket and divinity. If Facebook's algorithm smiles on a publisher, the rewards, in terms of traffic, can be enormous. If Marra and his team decide that users do not enjoy certain things, such as teaser headlines that lure readers to click through to get all the information, it can mean ruin. When Facebook made changes to its algorithm in February to emphasize higher-quality content, several viral sites that had thrived there, including Upworthy, Distractify and Elite Daily, saw large declines in their traffic.

Facebook executives frame the company's relationship with publishers as mutually beneficial: when publishers promote their content on Facebook, its users have more engaging material to read, and the publishers get increased traffic driven to their sites. □

## S&P 500 takes slight loss on oil, EU

MATTHEW CRAFT

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Lower oil prices and more gloomy economic news from Europe tugged the U.S. stock market to a slight loss on Monday.

Companies whose fortunes tend to follow global economic growth fared the worst, as shares of oil companies and material producers dropped 2 percent. Those industries that depend on the U.S. economy, including telecoms, held steady.

"What we're seeing is a market trying to find its footing right now," said Kevin Mahn, president and chief investment officer of Hen-

cast for crude prices.

The European Central Bank released the results of its stress tests of Europe's 130 biggest banks and said 13 of them still needed to raise more capital to survive a severe downturn. The bank that did worst in the tests, Italy's Monte dei Paschi di Siena, saw its shares plunge 18 percent. Those that passed, however, traded higher.

Germany's DAX lost 0.9 percent. France's CAC 40 dropped 0.8 percent, and Britain's FTSE 100 dipped 0.4 percent.

Last week, the U.S. stock market turned in its best performance in nearly two years. The rise helped the

"We're approaching the end of QE, and I think the market is going through a period when people are asking, how important is it to lack that support?" Joy said.

"The open question is how robust is the economy you're left with. Is it strong enough to sustain earnings growth?"

Rising supplies and weak global demand continued to weigh on the price of crude oil on Monday, which has tumbled from a high of \$107 a barrel in June. Goldman Sachs was the latest Wall Street bank to lower its forecast for prices in a report, saying OPEC was unlikely to cut exports



Specialist Joseph Mastrolia, left, works with traders on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Monday, Oct. 27, 2014. U.S. stocks fell in trading on disappointing economic news from Europe and lower oil prices.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

nion & Walsh Asset Management.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index closed with a loss of 2.95 points, or 0.2 percent, at 1,961.63.

The Nasdaq composite rose 2.22 points, a fraction of a percent, to 4,485.93, while the Dow Jones industrial average picked up 12.53 points, or 0.1 percent, to 16,817.94.

The news out Monday was mostly glum. Business confidence in Germany, Europe's largest economy, declined for a sixth straight month, and Goldman Sachs said slowing economic growth around the world led it to lower its fore-

S&P 500 regain ground from four weeks of losses. The benchmark index had dropped almost 6 percent by mid-October, but is now down just a fraction — 0.5 percent — for the month. What's behind the recent turbulence?

David Joy, chief market strategist at Ameriprise Financial, thinks the volatility is tied to actions by the world's central banks. The Federal Reserve is winding down its \$4 trillion bond-buying program — known as QE — this month. And many investors expect the European Central Bank to launch its own program on a similar scale.

to try and push prices back up. Benchmark U.S. crude fell 1 cent to close at \$81 a barrel in New York after trading much lower earlier in the day.

Oil and gas companies sank. Halliburton and Nabors Industries both dropped more than 6 percent.

Among other companies making big moves, Micron Technology surged 4 percent after the chip maker announced plans to spend as much as \$1 billion to buy its own shares. Micron jumped \$1.24 to \$32.30, extending a rally that has pushed the stock up 48 percent this year. □



Bunches of Chiquita brand bananas are seen for sale at a grocery store in Zelienople, Pa. Chiquita Brands International Inc. on Monday, Oct. 27, 2014 said it has agreed to sell itself to two Brazilian companies for approximately \$681 million, just days after the fresh produce company's shareholders rejected plans to merge with Irish fruit importer Fyffes.

(AP Photo/Keith Srakocic)

## Chiquita OKs \$681M deal with 2 Brazilian bidders

NEW YORK (AP) — Chiquita has sealed a deal to be acquired by two Brazilian companies for about \$681 million, with the U.S.-based banana producer expected to go private by the end of this year or early next.

The deal comes just days after the fresh produce company's shareholders rejected plans to merge with Fyffes, another major banana producer, based in Ireland.

Chiquita Brands International, based in Charlotte, North Carolina, said Monday it will be acquired by the investment firm Safra Group and the juice company Cutrale Group for \$14.50 per share, a 2 percent premium to its Friday closing price of \$14.16.

The companies put the transaction's value at about \$1.3 billion, including the assumption of Chiquita's debt.

Chiquita, founded in 1870, is among the world's top banana producers, along with Fresh del Monte, Dole and Fyffes, according to BananaLink, a nonprofit in the United Kingdom that raises awareness about working conditions in the industry.

The company, which employs about 20,000 people in about 70 countries, also produces pineapples and packaged products like salad blends and sliced apples.

It said its board unanimously approved the deal.

Once the transaction is complete, Chiquita will become a subsidiary of the Cutrale-Safra Group. The Cutrale Group says it already has more than a third of the \$5 billion orange juice market, and also sells oranges, apples and lemons.

On Friday Chiquita and Fyffes PLC gave notice to terminate their proposed merger agreement after Chiquita's stockholders didn't approve a revised transaction agreement between the two companies during a special shareholders meeting.

The proposed agreement with Fyffes was an all-stock deal, with the companies planning to incorporate in Dublin to take advantage of lower tax rates. Chiquita is based in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Once Chiquita's shareholders rejected the proposed deal with Fyffes, Chiquita said that it planned to enter talks with Safra and Cutrale on their competing offer of \$681 million.

Chiquita had received the bid from the pair last week after previously rejecting offers from the duo. The prior offer from Safra and Cutrale was \$14 per share. They had bid \$13 per share in August.

Shares of Chiquita added 21 cents, or 1.4 percent, to \$14.37 in morning trading. Its shares have risen more than 40 percent in the last three months. □

## STREET BRIEFS

## Dutch media startup lands NYT backing

**AMSTERDAM (AP)** — A Dutch startup that sells news on a per-article basis has landed a 3 million euro investment from The New York Times and the German publishing house Axel Springer SE. Blendle founder Alexander Klopping says his company will use the money to fund an international rollout. Blendle's strategy is to make it easy for users to pay small amounts — as little as a dime per story. It then adds a social networking element, as users can follow each other and recommend stories. The service enjoyed early success in the Netherlands as almost all major newspapers and magazines offer content through the site. The Economist had been the most prominent international news organization to use Blendle, but Klopping said Monday the NYT and Axel Springer's properties will now follow suit.

## Shares in TNT Express tumble after Q3 loss

**AMSTERDAM (AP)** — Shares in TNT Express NV, one of Europe's largest package delivery companies, have slumped to all-time lows after the company reported a 56 million euro (\$71 million) loss for the third quarter. The loss, which compares with profit of 6 million euros in the same period a year earlier, includes a 50 million euro provision for likely fines from a price-fixing investigation in France. Sales fell 2 percent to 1.65 billion euros. Shares were down 7.4 percent at 4.47 euros by mid-morning Monday in Amsterdam. UPS tried to buy TNT for 9.50 euros per share in 2013, but the deal fell apart over objections from European Union regulators. TNT is cutting jobs and investing in automation at distribution hubs and its European road networks to improve its results.

## Merck 3Q adjusted profit tops analysts' estimates

**WHITEHOUSE STATION, N.J. (AP)** — Merck's third-quarter net income fell mostly because of large costs tied to acquisitions and divestitures.

But the drugmaker's adjusted earnings topped Wall Street's view, and it narrowed its full-year adjusted earnings forecast on Monday. Merck also announced on Monday that the Food and Drug Administration gave breakthrough therapy designation to Keytruda for advanced non-small cell lung cancer that has progressed on or following platinum-based chemotherapy.

The designation is intended to speed the approval process for drugs that treat diseases that have no or inadequate treatments.

Merck's shares edged lower in morning trading.

The company earned \$895 million, or 31 cents per share, during the July-September quarter. A year earlier it earned \$1.12 billion, or 38 cents per share. Removing costs related to acquisitions, divestitures, restructuring and other items, earnings were 90 cents per share.

Analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research expected earnings of 88 cents per share.

Revenue declined to \$10.56 billion from \$11.03 billion partly on divestitures and the termination of a

joint venture with AstraZeneca.

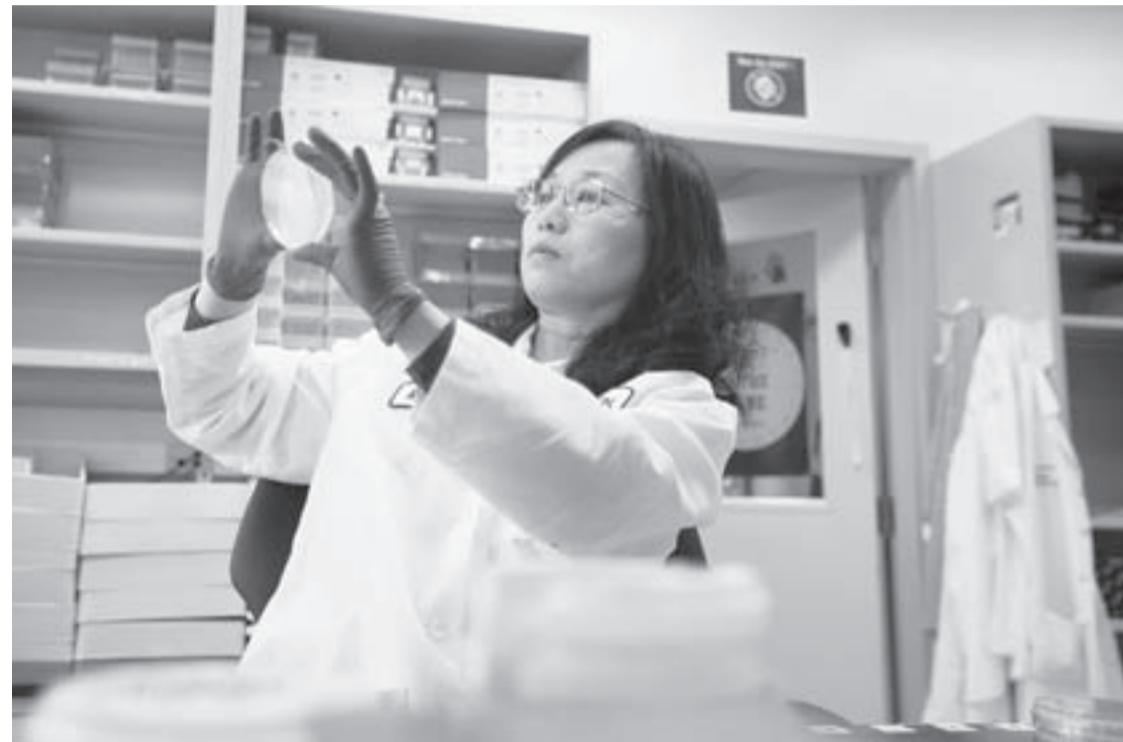
Zacks was calling for higher revenue of \$10.69 billion. Pharmaceutical revenue slipped 4 percent to \$9.1 billion on product divestitures and the loss of market exclusivity for some products such as oral chemotherapy drug Temodar and

Whitehouse Station, New Jersey company's prior guidance was for adjusted earnings in a range of \$3.43 to \$3.53 per share on revenue between \$42.4 billion and \$43.2 billion.

Analysts polled by FactSet predict earnings of \$3.47 per share on revenue of \$42.5 billion.

can better recognize and attack cancer cells.

In September, the FDA granted accelerated approval to Merck for Keytruda for treating melanoma that has spread or can't be surgically removed in patients previously treated with another melanoma drug called Yervoy.



**Merck scientist Meizhen Feng conducts research to discover new HIV drugs in West Point, Pa. Merck reported positive quarterly financial results before the market opened Monday, Oct. 27, 2014.**

(AP Photo/Matt Rourke)

asthma and allergy pill Singulair.

Merck now foresees full-year adjusted earnings in a range of \$3.46 to \$3.50 per share. Revenue is expected between \$42.4 billion and \$42.8 billion. The

Keytruda, a genetically engineered drug known chemically as pembrolizumab, is part of a hot, promising new class of antibody-based drugs. They work by taking a brake off the immune system so it

Merck & Co. is not affiliated with the German drugmaker Merck KGaA. Its stock slipped 89 cents, or 1.5 percent, to \$56.72 in morning trading. Its shares have risen more than 21 percent over the past year.

## Valeant: We'll bump Allergan offer to \$200 a share

## The Associated Press

The Canadian drugmaker Valeant said it would be willing to raise its take-over bid for Allergan by almost 12 percent, which would mean \$200 or more per share for the maker of Botox. The letter to Allergan's board Monday did not break down the exact terms of the new offer, but Valeant said the increase would consist of added "consideration" and expected appreciation of Valeant's own stock to be used in any deal.

The letter was released publicly just before Allergan released its third-quarter earnings, which topped Wall Street expectations.

Allergan pointed out in a written statement that Valeant has not made a firm higher offer and said the letter was intended to "distract investors from Allergan's outstanding third quarter results."

Valeant, based in Laval, Quebec, has made several offers to buy Allergan, only recently offering about \$179 per share at current stock values.

Allergan, which is based in Irvine, California, has set a Dec. 18 date for a special shareholder meeting at which its shareholders will consider replacing most of its board.

That could give Valeant and activist investor Bill

Ackman's Pershing Square Capital Management LP, which has built a large stake in Allergan, a chance at a takeover. Beyond control of the board, there also will be a vote on whether Allergan should talk to Valeant Pharmaceuticals International Inc. and Pershing Square.

The companies have traded barbs throughout the takeover battle, and Valeant has said that Allergan has made misleading statements about Valeant's businesses, including Bausch + Lomb, which Valeant acquired last year.

Allergan's third quarter was helped by rising drug and medical device sales.

Allergan on Monday reported net income of \$312.5 million, or \$1.03 per share, in its third quarter, which ended Sept. 30. That's up from \$300.8 million, or \$1 per share, in the same quarter last year. Earnings, adjusted for one-time gains and costs, were \$1.78 per share. Analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research expected \$1.62 per share, on average. The company, which also makes eyelash extender Latisse and dry-eye drug Restasis, posted revenue of \$1.82 billion in the period, which also beat Street forecasts. Analysts expected \$1.77 billion, according to Zacks.

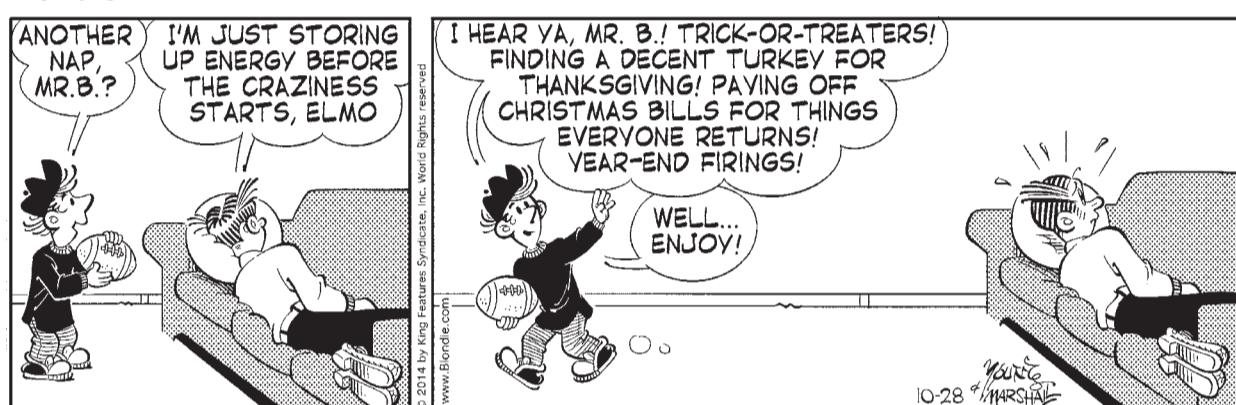
Mutts



6 Chix



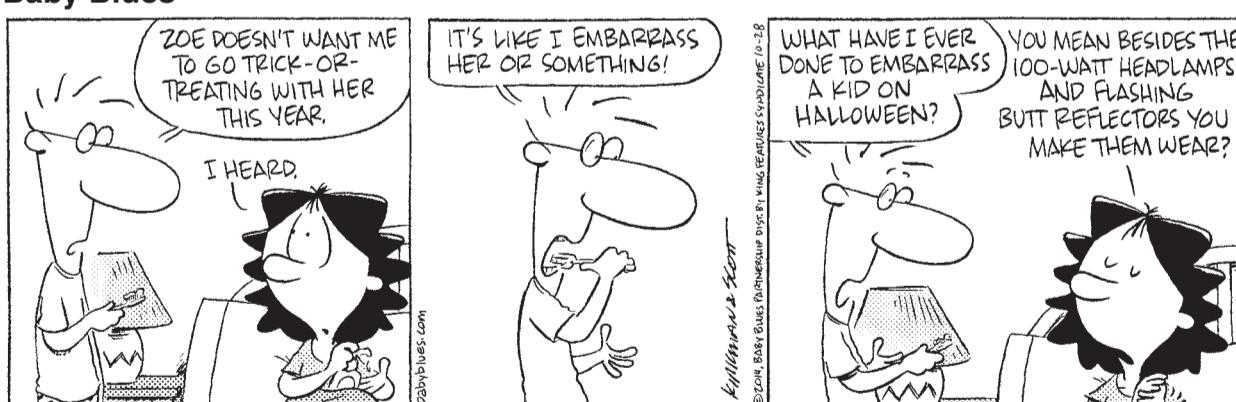
Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	5	7	2		8			
			1	3		2		
2			4		1		1	
6					7	8		
		7			1			
5	4					6		
	2			1			7	
4	1	8						
3	4	6	9					

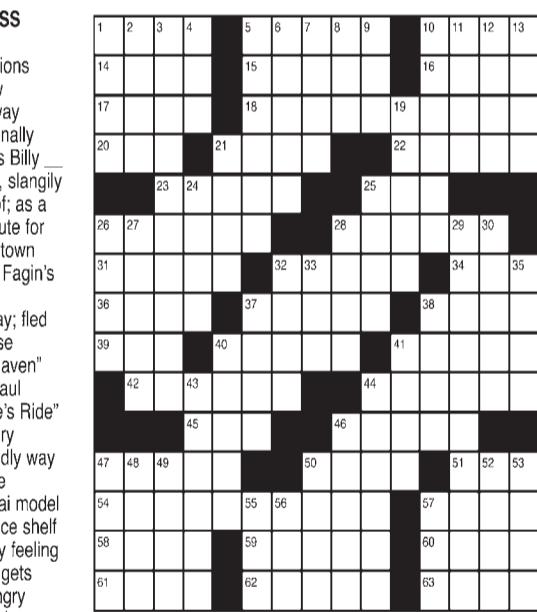
Difficulty Level ★★

10/28

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

7	4	1	3	5	6	9	2	8
3	6	9	2	8	7	5	1	4
2	8	5	9	1	4	3	6	7
5	7	6	8	3	2	1	4	9
1	9	2	7	4	5	6	8	3
8	3	4	1	6	9	7	5	2
9	1	8	5	2	3	4	7	6
6	5	7	4	9	8	2	3	1
4	2	3	6	7	1	8	9	5

Yesterday's puzzle answer



ACROSS

- Goals; aspirations
- Narrow waterway
- Additionally
- Music's Billy
- Money, slangily
- In \_\_\_ of; as a substitute for
- Out of town
- Any of Fagin's boys
- away; fled
- Disguise
- "The Raven" and "Paul Revere's Ride"
- In a very unfriendly way
- Acquire
- Hyundai model
- Fireplace shelf
- Uneasy feeling
- \_\_\_ off; gets less angry
- Car fuel
- TKO declaimers
- Group leader
- Carry
- Debtor's note
- Outlaw \_\_\_ Starr
- Mario Andretti or Jeff Gordon
- Show off
- Excellent
- Recline
- Gloss
- "This too \_\_\_ pass"
- \_\_\_ up; bound
- Afternoon hour
- Up until now
- Hold tightly
- Fighting force
- Did an electrician's job
- Two cups
- Clutter
- Blackish wood
- Highest cards
- Apple pie à la
- Conceited
- Procrastinator's word
- Small religious group
- Extra virgin olive \_\_\_
- Kosovo native
- Actor Hackman
- Record
- Constructed
- Regretted
- Narrow streets
- Actress Ally \_\_\_
- Ambulance's blaring device
- Con game
- In this place
- Upper limbs
- Spanish bull
- Chablis or rosé
- for; selects
- Have debts
- White lie
- Transcript avg.

Monday's Puzzle Solved

S	A	F	E	R	S	L	A	M	I	T	S	A
A	W	A	R	E	I	O	T	A	L	A	I	D
F	A	T	A	L	G	O	E	S	L	I	E	D
E	Y	E	S	I	G	T	C	R	I	N	G	E
S	P	A	R	E	S	R	A	T	O	M	U	N
N	A	B	D	E	I	T	N	I	C	H	E	C
A	I	L	S	S	I	T	E	S	E	A	L	C
G	L	E	A	M	P	E	S	T	D	I	M	D
M	O	P	E	S	O	T	T	E	O	T	T	R
A	L	T	E	R	D	O	R	A	R	O	R	A
R	E	I	N	E	D	B	U	L	L	E	T	I
D	O	M	E	D	R	A	B	E	M	O	T	E
O	N	E	S	L	O	B	E	S	O	F	I	A
R	E	D	S	E	W	E	S	T	R	U	S	T

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10/28/14

## Dunkin' plans Croissant Donut: it's not a Cronut



This product image provided by Dunkin' Donuts shows the chain's new "Croissant Donut," which will be launched nationally for a limited time starting Nov. 3, 2014.

(AP Photo/Dunkin Donuts)

### CANDICE CHOI

AP Food Industry Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Dunkin' Donuts plans to roll out a croissant-doughnut hybrid in the U.S. next week, but the company says please don't call it a "Cronut." The chain tells The Associated Press it will launch its "Croissant Donut" nationally for a limited time starting Nov. 3. It comes more than a year after the Dominique Ansel Bakery in New York City introduced its now trademarked Cronut, which became a viral sensation and spawned numerous knockoffs. Last summer, Dunkin' also introduced a croissant-doughnut in South Korea it dubbed a "New York Pie Donut."

John Costello, Dunkin's president of global marketing and innovation, said in a phone interview that bakers around the country have been mixing doughnuts and croissants for at least 20 years. He said Dunkin' is constantly tracking consumer and bakery trends and has been looking at pastry "combinations" for several years now.

"Are we copying a specific bakery in New York? The answer is no," Costello said in a phone interview.

The Croissant Donut is one of several new offerings Dunkin' has in the pipeline after reporting disappointing quarterly sales last week and warning it might struggle to make its long-term growth targets this year. Among the challeng-

es the company is facing is increased competition, with chains including Taco Bell going after the breakfast crowd.

Dunkin', based in Canton, Massachusetts, has nevertheless been opening new U.S. locations and last week said it sees potential for more than 17,000 U.S. locations over time, up from its current 8,000.

As for the Croissant Donut, Dunkin' says the pastry will cost \$2.49. That's less than the \$5 for a Cronut, but more than twice the \$1 or so for other Dunkin' doughnuts, making it more profitable for the company. The Croissant Donut will be covered with the same glaze used for its Glazed Donut, giving it a familiar taste. □

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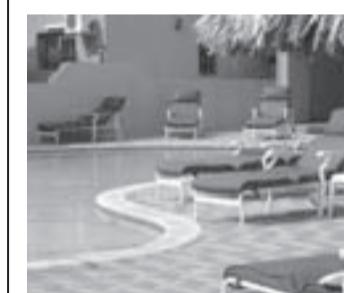
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## Ancient shipwreck discovered near Aeolian Islands

JASON DEAREN

Associated Press

GAINESVILLE, Florida (AP)

— The divers descended 410 feet (125 meters) into dark Mediterranean waters off Italy, their lights revealing the skeleton of a ship that sank thousands of years ago when Rome was a world power. A sea-crusted anchor rested on a rock. The ship's cargo lay scattered amid piles of terra cotta jars, called amphora.

Highly trained technical divers with a Florida-based group called Global Underwater Explorers — GUE for short — are helping Italian researchers to unlock an ancient shipwreck thought to date to the second Punic Wars between Rome and Carthage. Able to descend hundreds of feet (meters) further than most divers, they aide the archaeologists by swimming about the wreck fetching artifacts — as no robotic submersible can. On this dive, they swam past the large amphora used to carry wine, olive oil and other cargo on Mediterranean trade routes centuries ago — feeling as if they were transported to another time.

"It felt very much like a ghost ship awaiting the boarding of ancient mariners," said Jarrod Jablonski, one of the divers with the Florida exploration group.

Many of these divers honed their deep-water diving abilities in Florida's labyrinths of underwater caves. Now GUE provides the technical divers needed access to cargo and other artifacts from a

about 50 feet (15 meters) long that could have hit rough seas and broken up on rocks before plunging to the sea bottom — possibly a wealthy merchant's cargo ship or one used to supply the Roman military.

up, and the items were attached to balloons and sent to the surface. At such depths, diving is tricky work. Nitrogen becomes increasingly toxic to humans below 100 feet (30 meters). Divers

diving in that deep water, it is pushing the limits of the technology in a way I welcome very much," said Felipe Castro, a professor of nautical archaeology at Texas A&M University not with the project.

The divers found many important pieces needed to tell the ship's story, said Alba Mazza, an Italian archaeologist with the University of Sydney in Australia. Of note were the ship's anchor and a sacrificial altar with Greek inscriptions that provide clues to the ship's origin. The size and shape of the amphora help them understand what the ship was carrying. Experts believe it could have been a supply ship for Roman legions or that it belonged to a wealthy merchant, possibly from the Italian region around Naples, which Mazza described as "very rich and wealthy, with lots of nice wine in that area."

Another possibility Mazza and Tusa are investigating is whether the ship was a supply vessel in the fleet of Claudio Marcello, a Roman consul who conquered Sicilian city of Syracuse in 212 B.C.

GUE divers were paid through corporate contributions to its "Project Baseline," an endeavor in which divers and citizen scientists throughout the world submit data from myriad underwater sites that future researchers can use to compare and track changes. In addition to working on the wreck, Project Baseline divers around the world are surveying reefs and caves, including a deep sea cave off France. In the case of the Panarea III shipwreck, the data collected from the site can be used by the Italian government or others in the future. □



Divers illuminate Greco-Roman artifacts of a ship that sunk during the Punic Wars between 218-201 B.C., in the Mediterranean Sea, off the Aeolian Island of Panarea near Italy. The technical divers, trained in Florida's labyrinth of underwater caves, descended 410 feet to the wreck site to retrieve many of the ancient artifacts.

(AP Photo/GUE, Ingemar Lundgren)

ship thought to have sailed around 218-210 B.C. — when Rome and Carthage were fighting for naval superiority in the Mediterranean.

Called the Panarea III, the ship was discovered off the Aeolian island of Panarea in 2010 by American researchers using sonar and a remotely operated submersible in waters about 40 miles (64 kilometers) north of Sicily.

Archaeologists said the ship is a wooden vessel

"This shipwreck is a very important occasion to understand more about daily life on the ancient ship as well as the real dynamics of ancient trade," said Sebastiano Tusa, an Italian archaeologist who is studying the site. "Of course, there are other similar shipwrecks that can offer similar study cases. But this has the peculiarity to be in a very good preservation condition." The ship was so far underwater that it has been safe for centuries from looters and entanglement in fishing gear. As Jablonski and seven other GUE divers explored the wreck in September, Italian archaeologists shadowed them in a small submarine,

shining a bright light on the trove of Greco-Roman artifacts. As researchers in the sub pointed to objects, the divers retrieved them, swimming to the sub's window for viewing. A thumbs-

below 200 feet (60 meters) experience feelings similar to becoming drunk, making working with tools or fragile objects clumsy. But the GUE divers use specially prepared mixes of gases, which eliminate the problem of diving so deep. But the gases must be balanced carefully at each depth, or they could die or become extremely sick.

The divers must slowly descend. They can only work for about 30 minutes before making a 4-to-5 hour ascent to protect against illness.

"Technology hasn't substituted the human hand, with its articulated five fingers, for uncovering and cleaning artifacts," Jablonski said, explaining why they make these risky dives for researchers.

Archaeologists said the rewards are great despite the risks to the divers. "The fact that they are

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## PEOPLE BRIEFS

**'Fast & Furious 7' now re-titled just 'Furious 7'**

NEW YORK (AP) — The latest "Fast and Furious" movie has been retitled "Furious 7." The new title for the film, previously known as "Fast and Furious 7," was unveiled online Sunday by Universal Pictures. The film, set to open in April, is one of the last films starring Paul Walker, who died in a car crash last November. Walker died midway through shooting "Furious 7" and the film will still include his performance. More than perhaps any other franchise, the "Fast and Furious" movies have steered clear of consistent titles. Instead, they have furiously mixed articles and numbers in ever-shifting titles like "2 Fast 2 Furious," "The Fast and the Furious" and "Fast Five." □

**Signed Rolling Stones coffee table book \$5K**

NEW YORK (AP) — The next Rolling Stones project will cost you a lot more than the average concert ticket. A boxed, collector's edition of "The Rolling Stones," a coffee table book featuring hundreds of famous and little-known photographs, will be released in December. The publisher Taschen announced Monday that band members Mick Jagger, Keith Richards, Ron Wood and Charlie Watts signed each of the available 1,150 copies. The asking price: \$5,000. The regular edition, unsigned and slightly smaller in dimension, has a list price of \$150. In a statement issued through Taschen, Jagger said the book captures "many magical moments," while Richards called it a "roller coaster" through the band's 50 year history. □

**Taylor Swift: Growing up and going pop**

**MESFIN FEKADU**  
**AP Music Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — When Taylor Swift released the Grammy-winning, banjo-tinted "Mean" in 2010, haters fired shots at the then-20-year-old. Four years later, Swift says she's grown and was able to write her new single 'Shake It Off' about others dissing her from a new perspective.

"We are all getting our hearts broken, being built up, being let down, feeling disappointed, feeling joy, feeling all these emotions, but what I've noticed is that even when it's the same kind of emotion that I'm feeling, I process it and feel it differently now than I used to," she said in an interview last week. "And I think that's a factor of growing up, but I'm pretty proud of the way it's gone."

All signs point to growth as Swift released her fifth album, "1989," on Monday: She's left behind her country roots to go full-blown pop, she's moved to New York City and she hasn't really thought about dating in nearly two years.

"I think it's a beautiful thing to be in love. If you're in a good relationship, that's wonderful, but you are factoring someone else's feelings, schedule, opinion and priorities into your own feelings, schedule, thoughts, opinions, priorities. And in the last year and a half, that just hasn't been something that I've been interested in," she said.

Swift, 24, began dabbling in pop when she released "Red" in 2012, which featured the pop smashes "We Are Never Getting Back Together" and "I Knew You Were Trouble." Max Martin, who co-produced those songs with Shellback, is the executive producer behind "1989" and has created a slew of pop anthems, from Britney Spears' "...Baby One More Time" to Kelly Clarkson's "Since U Been Gone."

"I found myself wanting so badly to explore this new territory, but I felt absolutely terrified to go too far

in that direction because I thought people would be angry," Swift said about going pop. "I think that the country community wasn't surprised that I made a pop album; I think they were surprised when I was honest about it."

It's a bold move for Swift, who moved to Nashville as a teen to pursue her singing career. Her first single was called "Tim McGraw."

gen Heap. It's also a sound that resonates with Swift's fans, if a recent secret session at her apartment in New York City was any indication. Swift invited 89 fans to her warmly decorated pad in Tribeca to preview "1989." The feverish group of girls and boys (and moms) immediately jumped to the floor to sit on pillows as Swift sat in front of them. One

fictitious sensationalized version of my life ... and I couldn't help but think about how interesting, although albeit untrue, this character was. She's very interesting, you know, unpredictable and kind of reckless and impulsive and emotional, over-emotional mood swings and needy and clingy, but somehow alluring," she said. Another song, "I Wish You



**Taylor Swift performs at the iHeartRadio Music Festival at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas. Swift released her fifth album, "1989," on Monday, Oct. 27, 2014. It is the Grammy winner's first full-length pop album and features the hit song, "Shake It Off."**

(AP Photo/Al Powers/Powers Imagery/Invision/AP)

"We've had a great relationship with 2,000 country radio stations ... and so talking it through, she still welcomes their support," said Scott Borchetta, the president and CEO of Swift's longtime label home, Big Machine Records. "If the moment ever strikes her again and she decides, 'You know what, the music I'm making now is country,' I think she'll be welcomed back with open arms."

Swift says she's not sure she will record country music again — not because she doesn't want to, but because it's too early to tell. "If I wanted to make 'Red' 2.0 I could have done it, but I ... wanted the focus to be on the sound of the record rather than everyone dissecting each lyric to see who these songs are about," she said.

"1989" is pure pop fun, featuring hook heavy jams, from anthemic moments like "Shake It Off" and "Bad Blood" to calmer grooves like "Clean," featuring Imo-

girl couldn't stop shaking. "I'm a little worried about the shaking," Swift said to the blonde teen, and then gave her a high-five to calm her nerves.

When she played "Bad Blood," a song Swift wrote about a female pop singer she had a falling out with, a fan yelled as Swift gave background on the song: "It's because she doesn't have a Grammy!"

Swift gave her signature coy look, as the crowd looked to the two Grammy Awards atop her mantel, one of them for album of the year for 2008's groundbreaking "Fearless."

"Bad Blood" sounds like typical Swift, but most of the radio-friendly "1989" showcases a different tone in her songwriting. "Blank Space" was initially started as a joke: Swift said she had seen all of the tabloid stories about her and decided to write a song as if she was actually the media-created character.

"They've drawn up this

Would," marks another growth area: Swift says she's now friends with an ex.

"That's a new concept for me actually, writing songs about things that have happened in romantic relationships and being able to run them past the person that they're about," she said.

Bleachers frontman and fun. guitarist Jack Antonoff, who co-wrote and produced songs on "1989," calls Swift's new sound "innovative."

"She's never complicated the process of writing and recording," said Antonoff, who dates Lena Dunham, one of Swift's best friends. "I think the reason why she connects with so many people is she's not someone you want to be, she's someone you want to be friends with."

Swift, who credits living in New York City as part of her growth, said she's completely comfortable in her skin. □

## Simpson appeal in hands of Nevada top court

KEN RITTER

**Associated Press**

LAS VEGAS (AP) O.J. Simpson's appeal for release from a Nevada prison is now in the hands of the state Supreme Court.

Simpson lawyers argued in a final brief to the Nevada high court that a lower court judge was wrong to deny the former football star a new trial in his 2008 kidnapping and armed robbery conviction for a hotel room heist in Las Vegas.

The filing, submitted Friday, came after prosecutors submitted documents Sept. 24 saying there was no need for another trial. The Supreme Court could decide to hear oral arguments, or they could issue a ruling based on the written filings that have been submitted.

The court usually hears oral arguments in fewer than 100 of the 2,400 new cases it receives per year. A decision in the Simpson case wasn't immediately expected.

Simpson attorneys Patricia Palm, Ozzie Fumo and Tom Pitaro argue the former football star was wrongly convicted because his trial lawyer, Yale Galanter, botched his case and had conflicted interests. Galanter also handled a



**O.J. Simpson appears at an evidentiary hearing in Clark County District Court, in Las Vegas. Simpson's appeal for release from a Nevada prison is now up to the Nevada Supreme Court. Simpson lawyers argued in a final brief to the state high court that a lower court judge was wrong to deny the former football star a new trial in his 2008 kidnapping and armed robbery conviction in a hotel room heist in Las Vegas.**

**(AP Photo/Julie Jacobson, Pool)**

previous Simpson appeal that the state Supreme Court denied in 2010.

Galanter denies any conflict existed.

Both Palm and District Attorney Steve Wolfson declined comment Monday. Simpson is now 67. He's serving nine to 33 years in

a northern Nevada prison after a jury found him guilty of multiple felony charges for leading a group of men in a September 2007 confrontation with two sports memorabilia dealers at a Las Vegas hotel. Two of the men testified they brought guns, at Simpson's request.

Simpson didn't testify at trial, but claimed he was trying to retrieve items that had been stolen from him after his 1995 acquittal in Los Angeles in the stabbing deaths of his ex-wife and her friend.

He testified in May 2013, when Judge Linda Marie Bell heard his claims of ineffective counsel, that he never knew any of the men with him were carrying guns.

His lawyers now argue that his trial would have had a different outcome if the issues raised now had been raised then.

They argue that Simpson's multiple convictions and sentences for assault with a deadly weapon and robbery with use of a deadly weapon constitute double-jeopardy; that his lawyer should have challenged his multiple convictions and punishments; and that the jury should have been given a chance to consider lesser kidnapping and theft offenses when they deliberated.

Bell decided last November the evidence against Simpson was overwhelming, and that any errors at trial wouldn't have changed the outcome of his trial.

Simpson isn't eligible for parole until 2017. □

## Bruno Mars joins Rock in Rio; Vegas venue revealed

**LAS VEGAS (AP)** — MGM Resorts International and the organizers of Rock in Rio USA announced additions to the music festival's lineup Monday and offered a glimpse of what to expect when the event comes to Las Vegas next year.

Bruno Mars and Ed Sheeran will join Taylor Swift, Metallica and No Doubt performing on the main stage during the festival, which takes place May 8-9 and May 15-16. Singer Joss Stone also is slated to perform.

The announcement and debut of the festival's look came complete with a magician, tap dancers, a fire-thrower and musical acts performing in front of building facades resembling streets in the United States, Brazil and the United Kingdom.

Luis Justo, CEO of Rock in Rio, said the festival is intended to be an "immersive" experience. A Ferris wheel and 64-foot-high (20-meter) zip line are also planned for the site.

The venue will accommodate 85,000 general admission ticket-holders each day and 4,000 VIPs, organizers said. A pre-sale last month attracted ticket-buyers from 32 different countries, Justo said.

The 37-acre (15-hectare) open-air venue stretching from the corner of Las Vegas and Sahara boulevards next to the Circus Circus Resort is being built by MGM Resorts in concert with Cirque du Soleil and The Yucaipa Cos. investment firm.

When Rock in Rio and its "City of Rock" street facades leave after next year's shows, the venue will be used for other concerts, food festivals and sporting events year-round, said Chris Baldizan, senior vice president of entertainment for MGM Resorts.

"This is a monumental task," Baldizan said of turning the large swath of dirt into an outdoor entertainment venue.

Tickets are expected to go on sale in January. □

## Milsap, Wiseman, Cochran become hall of famers

**KRISTIN M. HALL, Associated Press**

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP) — Ronnie Milsap, the blind country-soul singer and pianist, joined bluegrass vocalist Mac Wiseman and the late songwriter Hank Cochran as the newest members of the Country Music Hall of Fame.

At a ceremony in Nashville, Tennessee, country artists Vince Gill, Martina McBride and Hunter Hayes honored the inductees Sunday with tribute performances at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum.

Steeped in Appalachian music but classically trained, Milsap first began playing with Elvis Presley in

Memphis before developing into a country singer with 40 No. 1 country hits and six Grammy Awards. The 71-year-old said that his musical interests were not encouraged as a young child in North Carolina.

"A lot of my counselors told me that I would never make it as a professional musician," Milsap said in an interview before the ceremony. "But they were wrong."

Ray Charles told me that I would make it. He said, 'If your heart is in love with music that much, you need to become a professional musician.'"

Wiseman, born in Crimora, Virginia, started off playing with bluegrass legends

such as the Foggy Mountain Boys and Bill Monroe before becoming a solo artist. He also was a record label executive and a founder of the Country Music Association in 1958.

"It was at the height of its transition period and I felt so fortunate to be a part of that period,

" said Wiseman, 89, of the genre. "The different mediums like television took it to a whole new level as far as viewers and listeners."

One of country's most successful songwriters, Cochran's standards include "I Fall To Pieces," made famous by Patsy Cline, "Make The World Go Away," recorded by Eddy Arnold, and "The Chair," per-

formed by George Strait. "He was shameless when it came to getting songs recorded," said Bobby Bare, another Hall of Fame member and songwriter. "Hank was like a heat-seeking missile."

If he had a song for you, you might as well go ahead and cut it, because he was relentless and nine times out of 10 it would be a hit."

Cochran, originally from rural Mississippi,

died in 2010 at 79 and his widow, Suzi, accepted the medallion on his behalf.

The inductees were presented with medallions in front of hundreds of fans at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum's CMA Theater. □

## The Working Nation



DAVID BROOKS  
© 2014 New York Times

During the Cold War era, Western economies delivered broad and growing prosperity for the middle class. This nurtured a general faith in political institutions and culminated in the democratic triumphalism of the 1990s. In a new essay called "The New Challenge to Market Democracies," William Galston of the Brookings Institution argues that this era is over. In Europe, growth has stagnated and unemployment is at catastrophic levels, especially for the young. Japan is afflicted with economic stagnation and demographic decline. In the United States, the middle class is hollowing out. The median annual earnings of workers with bachelor's degrees have not increased in three decades. A tree known by its fruit, democratic capitalism, Galston observes, has not produced the expected crop. This has led to a loss of confidence in the regime. Galston's essay is about how economic problems degrade the national spirit and lead to a loss of faith in the whole enterprise.

I think the malaise can be pinned down more precisely. In our meritocratic culture, satisfying and stretching work has become a psychological necessity. More than ever before, we are defined by what we do. If you are of prime age and you are not in the labor force, or engaged in some deeply stretching activity like parenting, then you will begin to feel drained inside. If you are in a dysfunctional workplace with bad personal relationships and no clear purpose, a core piece of you will begin to degrade.

If you are not earning enough money so you can feel respected, and live without desperate stress, you will begin to lose confidence and élan. And that is what's happening today. The labor force participation rate is at its lowest in decades.

Millions are in part-time or low-wage jobs that don't come close to fulfilling their capacities. Millions more are in dysfunctional or unhealthy workplaces, but they don't feel they can leave because they don't think there are other jobs out there that pay the same amount.

The country is palpably in the middle of some sort of emotional recession. Yet over the past five years, the political class has done essentially nothing. That will

fill future generations with astonishment and should fill the current generation with rage.

It is precisely at this moment that leaders are called upon to leap past the current moment and to point the way to the sun-drenched path ahead. You may disagree with every policy they ever uttered, but Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher leapt beyond the stagnant mood of the late 1970s.

If you get outside the partisan boxes, there's a completely obvious agenda to create more middle-class, satisfying jobs. The federal government should borrow money at current interest rates to build infrastructure, including better bus networks so workers can get to distant jobs. The fact that the federal government has not passed major infrastructure legislation is mind-boggling, considering how much support there is from both parties.

Other shifts are more fundamental, but should be the signature themes of the next political era. First, the government should reduce its generosity to people who are not working but increase its support for people who are. That means reducing health benefits for the affluent elderly. But it means, as Michael Strain of the American Enterprise Institute recommends, increasing wage subsidies when employers hire the long-term unemployed and issuing relocation subsidies so people in high unemployment areas can move.

Second, the tax code could do a lot more to encourage work and investment. Ideally, we'd move to a progressive consumption tax. But at least we could have the sort of tax reform that Sens. Marco Rubio and Mike Lee have suggested, which would simplify the code while subsidizing middle-class families. The fact that Washington hasn't even made a run at serious tax reform is another sign of utter political malpractice.

Third, the immigration system should turn into a talent recruiting system, a relentless effort to get the world's most gifted and driven people to move to our shores.

Fourth, there has to be a doubling-down on human capital, from early-education programs to community colleges and beyond. Today, too many people are focused on the top 1 percent. But, as economist David Autor has shown, if you took all the wealth gains the top 1 percent made between 1979 and 2012 and spread it to the bottom 99 percent, each household would get a payment of only \$7,000.

But if you take a two-earner, high-school-educated couple and get them college degrees, their income goes up by \$58,000 per year. Inequality is mostly a human capital problem.

This isn't rocket science. Vast majorities support every idea I've mentioned here. It just takes a relentless focus on job creation, bold political leadership and a country willing to be shaken out of its fear. □



## Plutocrats Against Democracy



PAUL KRUGMAN  
© 2014 New York Times

It's always good when leaders tell the truth, especially if that wasn't their intention. So we should be grateful to Leung Chun-ying, the Beijing-backed leader of Hong Kong, for blurting out the real reason pro-democracy demonstrators can't get what they want: With open voting, "You would be talking to half of the people in Hong Kong who earn less than \$1,800 a month. Then you would end up with that kind of politics and policies" - policies, presumably, that would make the rich less rich and provide more aid to those with lower incomes.

So Leung is worried about the 50 percent of Hong Kong's population that, he believes, would vote for bad policies because they don't make enough money. This may sound like the 47 percent of Americans who Mitt Romney said would vote against him because they don't pay income taxes and, therefore, don't take responsibility for themselves, or the 60 percent that Rep. Paul Ryan argued pose a danger because they are "takers," getting more from the government than they pay in. Indeed, these are all basically the same thing.

For the political right has always been uncomfortable with democracy. No matter how well conservatives do in elections,

no matter how thoroughly free-market ideology dominates discourse, there is always an undercurrent of fear that the great unwashed will vote in left-wingers who will tax the rich, hand out largess to the poor, and destroy the economy.

In fact, the very success of the conservative agenda only intensifies this fear. Many on the right - and I'm not just talking about people listening to Rush Limbaugh; I'm talking about members of the political elite - live, at least part of the time, in an alternative universe in which America has spent the past few decades marching rapidly down the road to serfdom. Never mind the new Gilded Age that tax cuts and financial deregulation have created; they're reading books with titles like "A Nation of Takers: America's Entitlement Epidemic," asserting that the big problem we have is runaway redistribution. This is a fantasy.

Still, is there anything to fears that economic populism will lead to economic disaster? Not really. Lower-income voters are much more supportive than the wealthy toward policies that benefit people like them, and they generally support higher taxes at the top. But if you worry that low-income voters will run wild, that they'll greedily grab everything and tax job creators into oblivion, history says you're wrong. All advanced nations have had substantial welfare states since the 1940s - welfare states that, inevitably, have stronger support among their poorer citizens. But you don't, in fact, see countries descending into tax-and-spend death spirals - and no, that's not what ails Europe.

Still, while the "kind of politics and policies" that responds to the bottom half of the income distribution won't destroy the economy, it does tend to crimp the incomes and wealth of the 1 percent, at least a bit; the top 0.1 percent is paying quite a lot more in taxes

right now than it would have if Romney had won. So what's a plutocrat to do?

One answer is propaganda: Tell voters, often and loudly, that taxing the rich and helping the poor will cause economic disaster, while cutting taxes on "job creators" will create prosperity for all. There's a reason conservative faith in the magic of tax cuts persists no matter how many times such prophecies fail (as is happening right now in Kansas): There's a lavishly funded industry of think tanks and media organizations dedicated to promoting and preserving that faith.

Another answer, with a long tradition in the United States, is to make the most of racial and ethnic divisions - government aid just goes to Those People, don't you know.

And besides, liberals are snooty elitists who hate America.

A third answer is to make sure government programs fail, or never come into existence, so that voters never learn that things could be different.

But these strategies for protecting plutocrats from the mob are indirect and imperfect. The obvious answer is Leung's: Don't let the bottom half, or maybe even the bottom 90 percent, vote.

And now you understand why there's so much furor on the right over the alleged but actually almost nonexistent problem of voter fraud, and so much support for voter ID laws that make it hard for the poor and even the working class to cast ballots.

American politicians don't dare say outright that only the wealthy should have political rights - at least not yet. But if you follow the currents of thought now prevalent on the political right to their logical conclusion, that's where you end up.

The truth is that a lot of what's going on in American politics is, at root, a fight between democracy and plutocracy. And it's by no means clear which side will win. □

## The power of cute: Hello Kitty Con debuts in LA

**SANDY COHEN**

AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Marty Garrett and Salumeh Eslamieh gave up their garage for Hello Kitty.

The married couple turned the garage of their San Francisco home into a permanent showroom for their vast Hello Kitty collection. Museum-style glass cases hold hundreds of rare and vintage Kitty items, including a rotary phone

from 1976 and a gum-ball machine from 1983. A four-foot-tall fiberglass statue of the Sanrio character, which Garrett calls "the holy grail of our Hello Kitty collection," stands in the corner.

The couple met and bonded over the little white cat (or the little girl with kitty ears and whiskers, if you prefer), and will be traveling to Los Angeles this week to celebrate the character's 40th birthday at Hello Kitty Con, a four-day festival dedicated to all things Kitty.

"This is the first time there has ever been a fan convention of this kind," Sanrio spokesman Dave Marchi said. "It's the only one happening anywhere in the world."

And it's already sold out. More than 25,000 fans are expected; An exhibition at the neighboring Japanese American National Museum, "Hello! Exploring the Supercute World of Hello Kitty," will continue through April 26, 2015.

Garrett and Eslamieh, both 32, were already Hello Kitty fans before they met, and their union has only fueled their fandom. Though most of their Sanrio collection lives in the garage-turned-showroom, there are pieces sprinkled throughout their house. The couple keeps a mini Hello Kitty kitchen inside their real kitchen, and they hand-painted a skylight above their dinner table with Sanrio characters.

"It's a pretty substantial part of our interests together," said Garrett, a lanky man with an armful of tattoos. "It does sort of guide and direct the things we do."

During their courtship, Garrett worked at a Sanrio store where Eslamieh would often visit. When the store closed, they bought its giant Sanrio sign, now on display in their showroom.

about her daughter's life-long obsession with Kitty/kiddie characters.

"You have to like cute things, and that's just not some people's personality," said Eslamieh, who keeps her love of Kitty separate from her professional life. "The products and designs are simple enough and cute enough that they fit in a semi-sophisticated home."

other Sanrio character that looks like a monkey. He boasts a complete collection of everything Monkichi has appeared on, housed in a floor-to-ceiling closet in the couple's guest room.

Garrett has integrated his love of Sanrio stuff into his work. Some of the couple's collection is kept in his fourth-grade classroom at Lawton Alternative School. Seasonal Sanrio banners

hang outside the door, a giant acrylic Hello Kitty face greets students inside, and a pile of plush toys sit atop the bookcase.

"There are so many pressures in this profession that can bring you down, so it's good to stay afloat with the cuteness of Hello Kitty and Sanrio," he said.

"And especially that he's a man," Eslamieh added, "it gives boys license not to have to be so macho."

Garrett will participate in a panel at the convention called "Guys love Hello Kitty too!" Eslamieh will also appear on a panel with other collectors: "For the Love of the Red bow - Super Fans Unite!"

The event will include hands-on workshops, where attendees can try scrapbooking, cake decorating, jewelry making and other Kitty-themed craft projects. Real tattoo artists will be on hand to ink guests with Hello Kitty. Temporary tattoos and nail art stations will also be available, along with

plenty of shopping opportunities, with new Hello Kitty merchandise that includes everything from limited editions Beats by Dre headphones to Jeffrey Campbell custom platform shoes. "She's world-renowned and beloved everywhere," Marchi said of the character that first appeared on a coin purse from Japan's Sanrio Co. in 1974. "From that humble coin purse, she has helped spawn an \$8 billion enterprise." □



This photo provided by the Japanese American National Museum shows Lady Gaga wearing the Hello Kitty x Lady Gaga Plush Dress, photographed by Markus + Indrani, and styled by GK Reid. The first Hello Kitty Con, a four-day festival of all things Kitty held in honor of the character's 40th birthday, opens Oct. 30, 2014, in Los Angeles.

(AP Photo/Japanese American National Museum, Markus + Indrani)

They visit Sanrio stores where ever they find them. They made a special trip to Japan to visit PuroLand, Tokyo's Sanrio theme park, and went to Honolulu's Sanrio Cafe on their honeymoon.

"I always wanted more Sanrio," said Eslamieh, who has a Hello Kitty tattoo on her shoulder and a Sanrio symbol on her wrist. The college professor confessed that her mother once called a radio psychiatrist for advice

Garrett, an elementary school teacher, has always been a collector. He came to Hello Kitty through comic books and anime, inspired by the breadth of characters and products available. He collects video games, too, and has 676 of the 677 original Nintendo games.

"Marty inspires the collecting part," Eslamieh said of her husband, who also considers himself "the biggest Monkichi fan" — an-

## Hello Kitty's Nitty Gritty

**SANDY COHEN**

AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Hello Kitty didn't need a backstory — or a mouth — to become a global phenomenon. Her image can be found on just about anything imaginable, from the predictable plush toys and lunch boxes to the not-so-predictable: surfboards, motor oil, an air purifier, kitchen gadgets, fine jewelry, light bulbs and toilet paper. "You could be born in a Hello Kitty maternity ward," said Dave Marchi, a spokesman for Sanrio, the Japanese company that created Hello Kitty in 1974.

Here's what you need to know about the famous character, who turns 40 on Nov. 1:

**Q:** Is she a cat or not?

**A:** People reacted with shock when news emerged over the summer that Hello Kitty is not a cat, but it's really not so simple. "Sanrio does not reference her as a cat in the traditional sense: She doesn't meow, she doesn't drink milk from a bowl, she doesn't eat cat food," Marchi said. He compared Hello Kitty to Mickey Mouse, a mouse that wears shorts, shoes and gloves.

**Q:** Does Hello Kitty have a back story?

**A:** According to the SanrioTown website, yes. Her full name is Kitty White. She lives in London, has a twin sister named Mimmy and a pet cat called Charmmy Kitty. She is about five apples tall. Her favorite color is red, and she enjoys playing piano and baking cookies.

**Q:** Why is Hello Kitty so popular?

**A:** Branding expert Dorie Clark says Hello Kitty's simple, mouthless design lends to her broad appeal. "She's stoic, she's expressionless, and people can put onto her almost any kind of emotion," she said. □